WELCOME TO TASMANIA

D.A FOREST HANDBOOK 2008

The industrial monster on which our society relies is responsible enlarge for our current rate of earth destruction. Our technologies, our greed, our thoughtless consumerism all amount to the problems being perpetuated. We are, at the very very least, materially interdependent with the rest of nature. yet our consumption rate is rendering the planet uninhabitable. It is needless, we are being fed a lie. A lie which becomes easier to swallow the further away from ourselves that we float.

Global consumption, from a cup of coffee to a high-tech stealth bomber, is causing widespread forest clearance, mining, air and water pollution, soil depletion, species extinction. Our lifestyles spur on these acts of vandalism, validating them by constant consumer support, and lifestyle choices.

A blockade gathers people from many backgrounds. In our current western circumstances people live isolated from each other and nature. The community life that becomes the norm at a blockade camp can be seen to be as integral as the fight we take on together. We form an alternative way of co-existing upon this planet, one which aims to minimize our footsteps upon the local and global ecology. Forming and living the alternative is as important as rendering the currant model illegitimate. It can always be improved upon, it needs to be, but it is valuable fertile ground.

"We will not be lulled into slumber by you,
we will not be lulled into sleep,
For we've had a taste of this wondrous place
and it's treasures we intend to keep."

MUTINY

RESPECT

WHITE AUSTRALIA HAS A BLACK HISTORY THAT NEVER CEDED SOVEREIGNTY

We wish to acknowledge the Sovereignty of the Palawa people who are the traditional owners of Tasmania and the ongoing struggle for Land Rights and pay respect to the victims of Genocide, theft and assimilation that have occurred on their traditional homelands since British Invasion in 1803.

We also pay respect to the Aboriginal people world wide who have fought for self determination and to keep Traditional Culture alive.

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INTRODUCTION

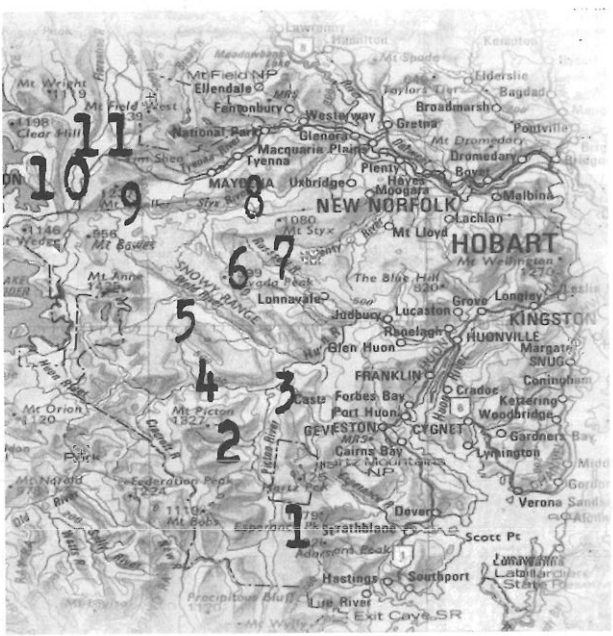
YA, Welcome to the Southern Forests of Tasmania. You have just stepped into a world brimming with magnificence! A world of Valleys over flowing with old growth forests, temperate rainforests, wilderness, wild rivers, Aboriginal heritage, endemic, rare and threatened species. Eco systems valued amongst the rarest on the planet, and rendered amongst the most threatened by industrial logging. A practice boasted by the industry heads, Gunns Ltd and Forestry Tasmania to be the "worlds best practices". A deceptive statement considering the massacre of trees, some up to 500 hundred years old and standing as tall as 90 meters.

Over 10,000 football fields of native forest per year are clearfelled, fire bombed and often replaced with tax effective monoculture tree farms.

This is an island, on which native species of flora and fauna,find themselves tethering on the brink of survival. An island condemned to such a fate through the hand of human industry, corporate greed and ruthless acquiescence to political distortion.

The areas on the map below exist close to or along the borders of the World Heritage area and are integral areas of conservation and wilderness. It is these forests that we defend.

The Lower Weld Valley, Styx Valley and the Upper Florentine Valley are all linked by a poetic river system. The wild rivers of the Weld, the Styx and the Florentine all have their source' emanating from the regal Mount Mueller, to the West of Hobart town.



1. Esperance
2. Picton
3. Arve
4. Middle Huon
5. Weld Valley
6. Little Denison
7. Russell
8. Styx
9. Mt Mueller
10. Clear Hill
11. Upper Florentine

WELD VALLEY

In early 2002 a number of people set up a blockade in Tasmania's Weld Valley, in what was to become the first action in an onging community effort to defend the ancient World Heritage Value Forests of the Weld. After the woodchip cover up Tahune Airwalk was built, log trucks were no longer able to cross the Huon River bridge, as they had done so for years after tearing their way through the Weld Valley. So a new bridge and extensive road was developed in the Weld Valley.

Community resistance to this very bridge was the first of many blockades to be had in the Weld Valley and it lasted a number of weeks. Since that first blockade, there have been a number of blockades and actions to bring the international spotlight to the Weld Valley forests and its ongoing demise at the hands of woodchippers. The longest held camp at the end of a road in the Weld Valley was a 14 month blockade, the Weld Ark, where a pirate ship was built in the forest, after a village like atmosphere had been lived in and thousands of people had visited the surrounding forest, it was demolished by 50+ police who embarked on an early morning raid on 15th November 2006. A series of actions happened after the bust and there were over 40 arrests.

In March 07 a fantastic spectacle that was the Weld Shutdown occurred, when an activist was suspended off the bridge over the weld river, the Weld Angel sat atop a tripod at the Tahune Airwalk and another locked himself to the Eddy rd gate. Essentially the Weld Valley was shutdown for the day.

Most recently the actions in the Weld Valley over 07/08 have been protests about a motherfucken big coupe, WR12C, which is only half done and is 120 hectares. Two cable loggers were climbed and held for the day. Another in the World Heritage Bordering forest, where you can stand in the coupe and see what is the World Heritage Area. And even more recently are protests against the imminent plans to build a second logging bridge over the Weld River

This second logging bridge will access ancient and untouched forest in the North Weld Wilderness Area. The north weld contains remote and steep ancient forest that borders the Snowy Range World Heritage Area. A second logging bridge over this wild river would be a deep tragedy for Tasmania.

The Weld Valley is a special place for many reasons, the weld river flows wild and undisturbed from the South West World Heritage Area. An ancient forested valley of towering trees, moss filled rainforest gullies, snow-capped mountains, wide plains,crystal clear streams and the wild Weld river. The indigenous Tasmanians wandered this valley some 20 000 years ago evidence of their lives still remain in the national park protected 'Bone Cave' in the upper Weld.

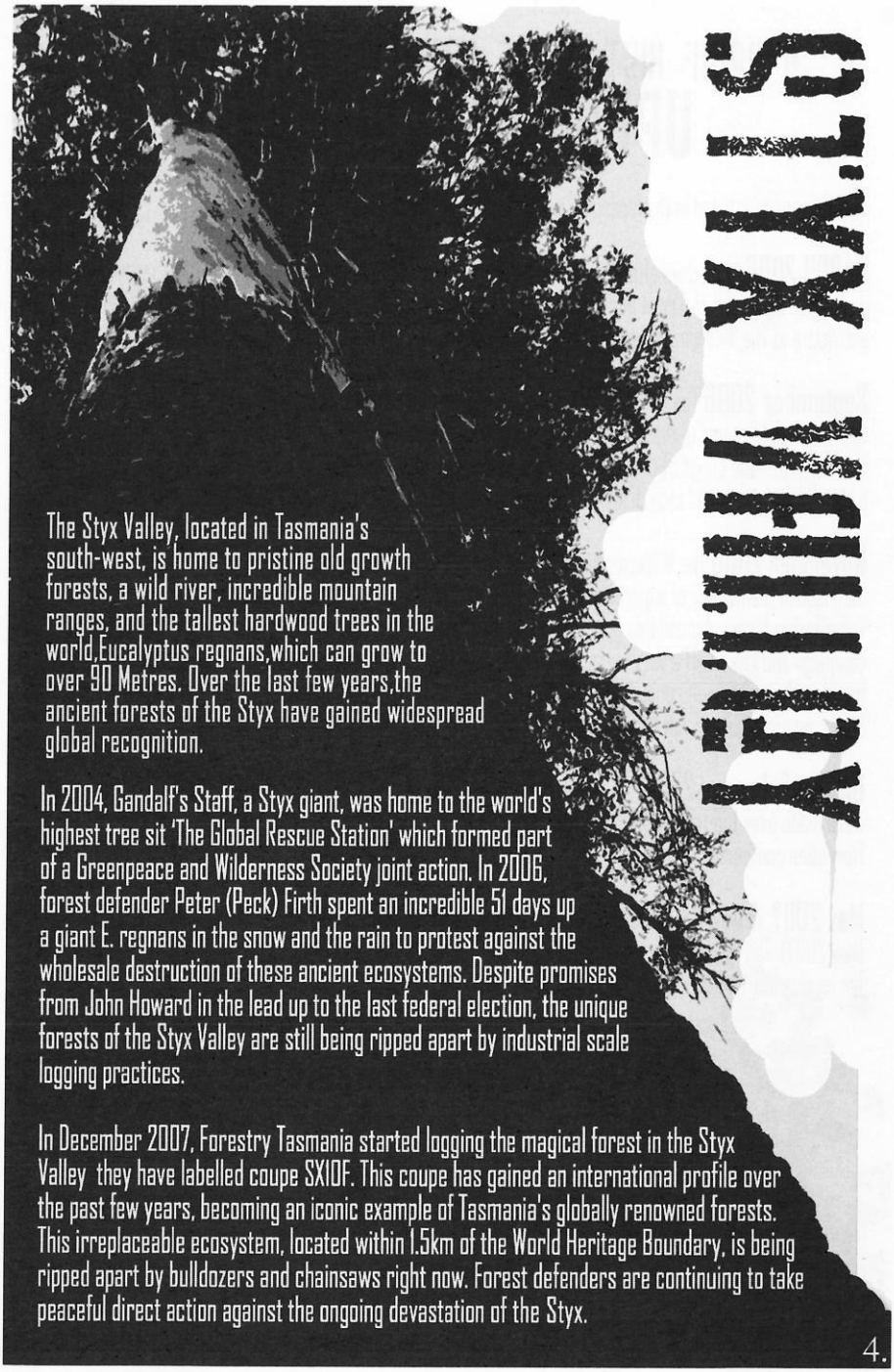
While some 80% of the Weld Valley is protected in the South West World Heritage Area, the remaining forests suffer a very different fate to those separated by the imaginary protection line. Viewed as a single wilderness area, the Weld Valley is a unique landform which has a rare combination of outstanding biological, geological and cultural features naturally linked by continuous forest to the World Heritage Area. The threatened forests of the Weld have been recommended for World Heritage listing in the late 1980s by a number of bodies, including the Department of Parks, Wildlife and Heritage and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

At the entrance to the Weld Valley is the Southward Industrial park that has a sawmill, small woodchip mill and a veneer plant owned and operated by a Malaysian logging company. This same company that is a killer logger in Sarawak, involved in palm oil logging, and further dubious activities, though our State Government has given them 30 years access to the public forests at today's prices. A wood fired power station is proposed for this industrial park, though at this stage there are no investors.

So on top of woodchipping the guts out of the Weld this industrial park is also a huge weight on the shoulders of the Weld forests.

WELD VALLEY CONT....

STYX VALLEY



The Styx Valley, located in Tasmania's south-west, is home to pristine old growth forests, a wild river, incredible mountain ranges, and the tallest hardwood trees in the world,Eucalyptus regnans,which can grow to over 90 Metres. Over the last few years,the ancient forests of the Styx have gained widespread global recognition.

In 2004, Gandalf's Staff, a Styx giant, was home to the world's highest tree sit 'The Global Rescue Station' which formed part of a Greenpeace and Wilderness Society joint action. In 2006, forest defender Peter (Peck) Firth spent an incredible 51 days up a giant E. regnans in the snow and the rain to protest against the wholesale destruction of these ancient ecosystems. Despite promises from John Howard in the lead up to the last federal election, the unique forests of the Styx Valley are still being ripped apart by industrial scale logging practices.

In December 2007, Forestry Tasmania started logging the magical forest in the Styx Valley they have labelled coupe SX10F. This coupe has gained an international profile over the past few years, becoming an iconic example of Tasmania's globally renowned forests. This irreplaceable ecosystem, located within 1.5km of the World Heritage Boundary, is being ripped apart by bulldozers and chainsaws right now. Forest defenders are continuing to take peaceful direct action against the ongoing devastation of the Styx.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ACTIVIST ACTIVITY IN THE UPPER FLORENTINE

Activist activity started in the forests of the Upper Florentine around

MARCH 2006. Just days after the State election, Forestry Tasmania rolled in the dozers and started pushing an ugly scar of a road into a pristine valley. Community response was immediate with independent activists and The Wilderness Society heading out into the Floz for the first of many peaceful protests.

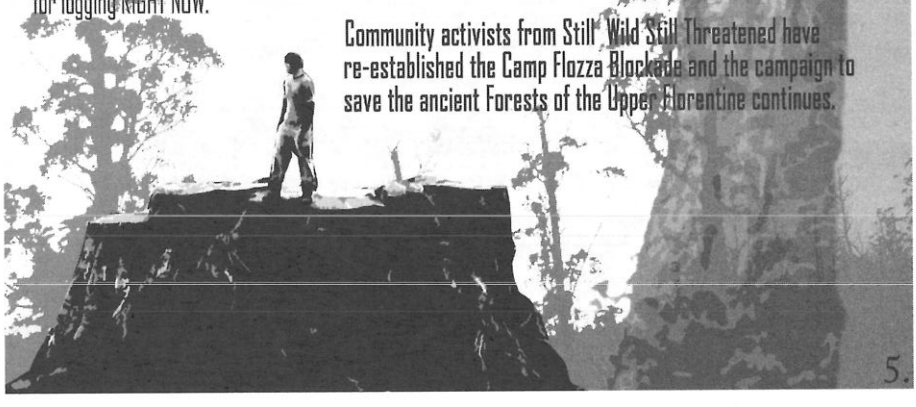
September 2006 The Derwent Forest Alliance (DFA) held a very successful Threatened Species day in the Flozza and Friends of the Florentine held another one in November "07. October 2006 the DFA set up the first tree-sit, "The Lungs of the Land" to defend the area from Forestry Tasmania's planned devastation and a handful of determined individuals established the first Flozza camp.

November 2006 The Wilderness Society launched the World Heritage Watchtower, a tree top station 55m high in the Canopy of a giant eucalypt to highlight the immediate threat to another World Heritage Value Tassie forest. Around this time independent activists also moved into the Upper Florentine to join the campaign and kicked off a very hectic Summer of non-stop community protest in the Flozza with a lot of focus on the old growth coupe 42F, the blockading of a new road, town actions, petitions, articles, visiting bands, an incredible 12 volt forest cabaret and non-stop campaigning by all involved.

On 21st February 2007, the blockade was raided by over 40 police and FT workers and 16 arrests were made over the following 3 days. However, a complex system of structures was built and Camp Florentine continued.

May 2007, Activists negotiated a moratorium on logging and roading in the valley until the federal election (Nov 2007). The moratorium (the flozza mozza!!!!) is now over and the Upper Florentine Valley is scheduled for logging RIGHT NOW.

Community activists from Still Wild Still Threatened have re-established the Camp Flozza Blockade and the campaign to save the ancient Forests of the Upper Florentine continues.



WHAT TO BRING TO BLOCKADES

- Good sturdy boots for working in!!
- Head torch and spare rechargable batteries
- Warm sleeping bag and/or blankets and sleeping mat
- Warm clothes, waterproof clothes. We can get four seasons in the one day down here, so something for all occasions is advisable
- Paper and pencil in a waterproof bag
- Tent or Tarp
- Pocket knife
- Hiking pack
- Mobile phone credit for camp phone
- Water bottle
- Smiles and happy productive vibes!!!
- Map 1 : 25000

OTHER THINGS.....

- Sewing kit
- Climbing gear that you might have
- Two ways radios, GPS, video camera, stills camera
- Musical instruments
- Spare cooking utensils and gas stoves
- Hand sanitizer, or tea tree vinegar mixture
- Sun protection and natural insect repellent
- Plastic bags for waterproofing rucksacks and feet
- Candles
- Bio-degradable soap
- Condoms (ya never know!!!)
- Money
- Books, cards, knitting
- First Aid kit
- Watch

WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Oppressive, sexist, homophobic, racist, patriarchal, hierarchical attitudes.
- Violence of any kind
- Illegal drugs
- Unruly out of control dogs
- Heavily packaged produce, everything brought in has to be brought out , by you
- Detergents, chemical products of any kind that will damage the environment

Safety in the bush is of the utmost importance.
We are putting our lives on the line in defence of the Earth and while recognising that, it doesn't mean that we have to die or be hurt in the process of standing up for what we believe in. Not that any one has died in the practice of defending the forests in Australia. Always be safe, it's a huge issue, because with our actions, we not only have ourselves to think of but also the wider implications of the campaign.

Safety is keeping communications clear, it's knowing your own limitations and stepping back when you need to, its taking two extra minutes to double check the knot/ look around before swinging the mallet. Safety is not scutting off away from the group in the bush without a word and it's not taking unnecessary chances. Our actions are monitored, we are in the public eye and like it or lump it, our personal choices are often considered to be those of the entire conservation movement of Tassie.

First off, never be under the influence of any mind altering substance if you are climbing or in a tree sit or in a situation where interactions with law enforcement may happen. We don't care if you've only had one beer or one toke. Not only is your life on the line but the entire campaign could be jeopardised if something horrible happened and later it was found out that they had drugs in their system.

If you don't know how to climb and would like to, we can train you, and all will be explained. When you are in a sit you must be safetyed in at all times. Whenever you are moving around or sitting on a branch watching the moon or climbing, make sure your safety is on. Whenever you are traversing or climbing keep an eye out for rope wear. If you have any medical issues, be sure to tell someone. We can't help you or prevent circumstances if nobody knows what's going on. If you have an known allergy, carry medication. Tell someone of your allergy, and what should be done if the symptoms manifest.

Safety at an action set up and the time following covers all the above, but there is a couple of other things that should be considered in addition.

A VIDEO CAMERA should always be present and have it switched on. Whoever is carrying the camera should have a buddy lined up to ensure the ongoing filming in the case of shit hitting the fan. The camera poses a threat for anyone who has it in their head to do harm, so it naturally follows that they'd make a go for it first off. The buddy provides 'muscle power' for the filmer, and if need be accompany them when/if they go bush. Best the person with the camera carry it on them at all times, try not to put it down.

COMMUNICATIONS, both within the group and the town crew. This is crucial, vital, even imperative!!! If you want to head off into the bush, please don't just go, it can be deadly in a working coupe, it can be scary for all of us when we are down a crew member. And it's important that you don't wander off alone. When there is a phone out in the bush. Check it for word from the town. It often happens that all the plans are laid out, and next thing ya know is that its all gone pear shaped. Check the phone, send messages out to let people know what the crew in the bush are up to, if pick ups are needed, if supplies are needed, if people are needed.

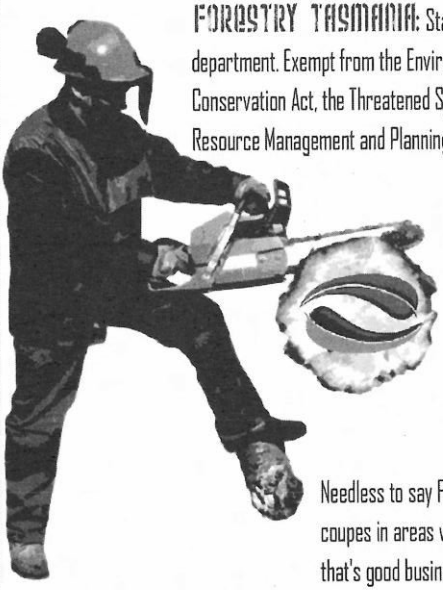
KITCHEN CONSIDERATIONS! Please don't make us all sick. Wash hands well (with tea tree and vinegar) before preparing food. General tidiness can help not only us but the animals with whom we share our forest home. Food scraps, especially soft foods like bread, can result in native animals developing a disease known as lumpy jaw, which leads to a slow and painful death.

PHYSICAL SAFETY is not the only thing that is important. It is crucial that we pay attention to each other and are open about how we are doing emotionally. We are doing work that is very emotionally draining. It's hard to watch old growth being slaughtered, and if we can't offer each other solace then what hope do we have. When the earth is mined, clearfelled, dammed, they do it to us too. When we protect and care for each other and the earth, we do it to them!! So lets do more of it!!!!!

AT SET UPS and blockades..anywhere where there's poly rope and climb lines, there's a few considerations to be kept in mind. Climb lines, the rope we put our lives on, are constructed by several layers of braiding around a core. If this is stood on, 'dirt' enters the system and weakens it, so, obviously that's not cool! With polypropylene rope the stuff ya see a lot of floating around, that is used to set up structures and tarps and hold our shoes and trousers together, it's best to leave it on a tarp as opposed to the ground, and as with climb line not to stand on it for the same reasons. To prevent very, very annoying birds nests of tangle delirium, its best to unravel it from the inside! And burning the ends ya cut to prevent unraveling is the way to go. Sorry, I know all this sounds quite Nazi, but trust me, knowing this shit helps.

Natural inclination towards survival would obviously scream all this through your head so please see it as just a friendly reminder

FOREST DEFINITIONS



FORESTRY TASMANIA: State Government corporatised forestry department. Exempt from the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, the Threatened Species Act, and the state's own Resource Management and Planning System

COUPE : A segment the forest determined by FT, within the borders of which logging operations are conducted. Features such as streams, creeks, rivers, endangered species habitat, are given buffer zones, varying between 50 and 100 meters. Needless to say FT determins the placement of these coupes in areas where logging is most viable, for them that's good business. For us, its Earth carnage

CLUMP CLEAR FELLING/AGGREGATED RETENTION: FT and government devious spin designed to appear as if they are phasing out clear felling. FT continues to clear fell the forest but leaves small clumps of trees standing. These isolated clumps suffer damage from burns, wind, disease and drying out. Forestry Tasmania has adopted a definition of 'clear felling' that is very narrow, so that 'aggravated retention' – clear felling leaving small clumps – will be defined as 'selective harvesting'. Clump clear felling is really a very bad attempt to pacify growing community concern without really changing the destructive forestry practices in the State's native forests.

CLEAR FELL: The term used for the logging of a coupe/removal of all vegetation from with in a coupe. Nothing is left after clear felling, except for some small stream side reserves or wildlife habitat clumps that are completely vulnerable. Otherwise everything is logged, trees cut with chainsaws and the ferns, sassafras and the rest pushed over with a dozer. 20% of the timber is taken out for further use, 80% of trees are left behind on the forest floor, (on average) and burnt to a crisp .

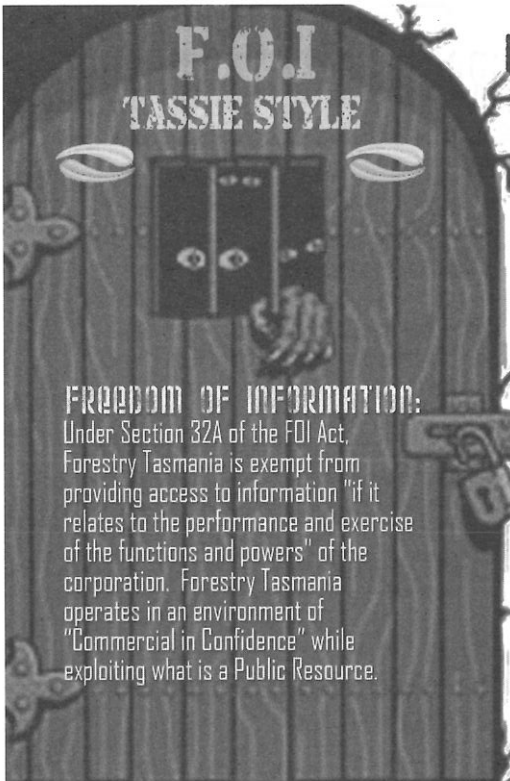
FOREST DEFINITIONS CONT..

CABLE LOGGING: the logging of steep forest. When a coupe is on a steep inclination a machine is employed to drag logs with cable out of the logged area, it looks like a massive industrial monopole. It drags up felled trees so that they can get into more areas that, before the dawn of industrial wanking, made these areas in-accessible. Cable loggers are not widely used in other Australian states, though of course they are in Tasmania!

REGENERATION BURN: High intensity burns, choppers fly over and drop "bombs" which contain a napalm like substance, Drop and burn is the mission, These fires can continue for up to 3 months depending on the age of the area being burned. These burns have the appearance of a mushroom cloud. It is estimated that up to 20 million tonnes of biomass are incinerated by these burns each year in Tasmania. Much of it is deemed commercially valuable timber by timber workers. These burns occur usually from March to May. Needless to say FT's control of these fires is highly inadequate, which is a huge concern considering that a lot of the coupes which we consider to be of high conservation value, are bordering the World Heritage Area. Sir Nicholas Stern calculated that ending the burning of old-growth forests would reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by more than the combined emissions of all the world's transport systems.

1080: is laced on carrots and laid in coupes following the burns, where plantations are to be sprouted. Un-laced carrots are first scattered around the area, to fool native wildlife into eating the new food source, promptly followed by laced carrots, distinctive in there nature...because they're blue! Forestry companies claim 1080 poison is not being used anymore on public land, though the devastating poison is still being used on private land. 1080 (sodium monofluoro-acetate) is a 'super' toxic poison. One teaspoon is sufficient to kill between 30 and 100 men each weighing 150 pounds. There is no known antidote. It is odourless, tasteless and soluble in water and has been evaluated for use in chemical warfare. Recognising its dangers, 1080 was banned in the United States back in 1972. The ban was lifted in 1982, but its use today is very strictly controlled and only by licensed and trained personnel. Death by 1080 poison is one of the most cruel and inhumane ways in which an animal can die. Consumption through ingestion results in a painfully slow death over several hours from convulsions, cardiac arrest, failure of the central nervous system and respiratory arrest.

F.O.I
TASSIE STYLE



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION: Under Section 32A of the FOI Act, Forestry Tasmania is exempt from providing access to information "if it relates to the performance and exercise of the functions and powers" of the corporation. Forestry Tasmania operates in an environment of "Commercial in Confidence" while exploiting what is a Public Resource.

NATURAL REGENERATION: FT's notion of leaving a burned coupe up to its own devices. Usually results in large areas of weed infested land void of animals.

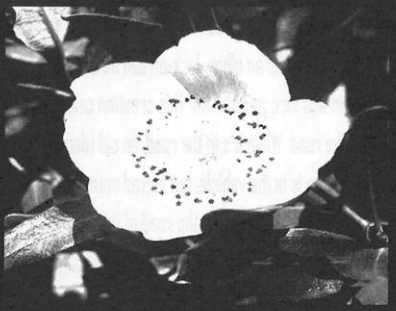
PLANTATIONS: As the name would suggest it's a plantation of eucalypts, a tree farm in essence and actuality. Plantations work on a rotation cycle of 9 years per rotation. These are monocultures devoid of teeming life, monotonous rows of young trees that puts Holland to shame for it's fascist hold over nature....tree farming.

DEFINITIONS CONT...

THREE YEAR PLAN: A public document produced by FT announcing new coupes and road plans for the up coming 3 years. It also holds the variable of 'contingency plans', which are coupes and roads which they can fallback on should anything deter them from moving onto their verified plans. The TYP is updated each year around September.

FOREST PRACTICES PLAN: Forest Practices Plans (FPPs) describe how forestry activities must be carried out.FPPs must be prepared in accordance with the Forest Practices Code and must "describe the proposed location of roads, how the land will be replanted, measures for the protection of soils, water and cultural values, the estimated time for completion of the activities and the name of the person who will process the harvested timber," However, once we receive the document, the name of the contractor, the timelines of logging and the pulp wood quantity is blacked out.

A FPP is a useful bit of information when so little is accessible from Forestry Tas. Once the forest practices plan is certified, the forest is pretty much on the chopping block.



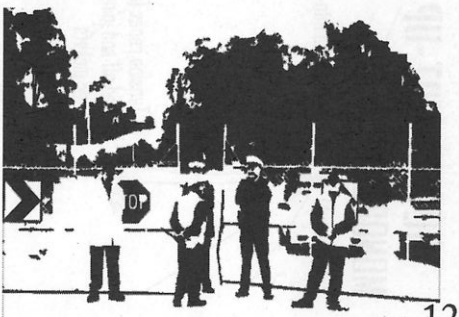
LEATHERWOOD: Found only in Tasmania. The large, delicate, nectar-rich flowers of the leatherwood form the basis of Tasmania's leatherwood honey industry. The distinctive paddle-shaped leaves aid recognition outside the flowering period. Flowering period is December to January. This species is most common in the implicate and thamnic rainforests that are common in S.W Tasmania. It is restricted to areas of high rainfall. Leatherwood is worth nearly twice as much as other honeys, and, as it represents three quarters of the state's production, logging of the tree they're so dependant on has left beekeepers fearful their industry is on the way out. The Tasmanian Beekeepers Association says that, as the resource has been clear felled and burned, it has forced beekeepers out to the edges of the district and essentially now they are forced to use leatherwood that is much less reliable. It is usually at a much higher elevation, it's affected by cold. The flowering is not as reliable. Beekeepers say the problem is that leatherwood-which is of little timber value-grows alongside the eucalypts, which the loggers want. What has happened is that the leatherwood has been clearfelled almost as a bycatch in order to get their hands on those woodchips,and the big eucalypts saw logs. FT use access to Leatherwood as an excuse to legitimize logging of more ancient wilderness.

TAGGINGS FOUND IN COUPES:

Red - Roading.
Blue - Harvesting boundary
Orange - Research
Yellow & White Stripes - Natural and cultural values used by Forest Practices Board Specialists to flag areas identified during survey (eg. location of Aboriginal artifacts).
Red & White Striped- Windrow locations, culvert locations. Snigtrack, watercourse crossings.
Yellow & Black with lettering "Caution" Used to mark dangerous trees ie: Trees that could fall within coupe.
Yellow and Black Stripes - Used by Work place Standards Tasmania inspectors when a prohibition notice is issued stopping access to a section of Forest.
White Tape - Short term use.
Blue & White - Sub-coupe harvesting boundary.

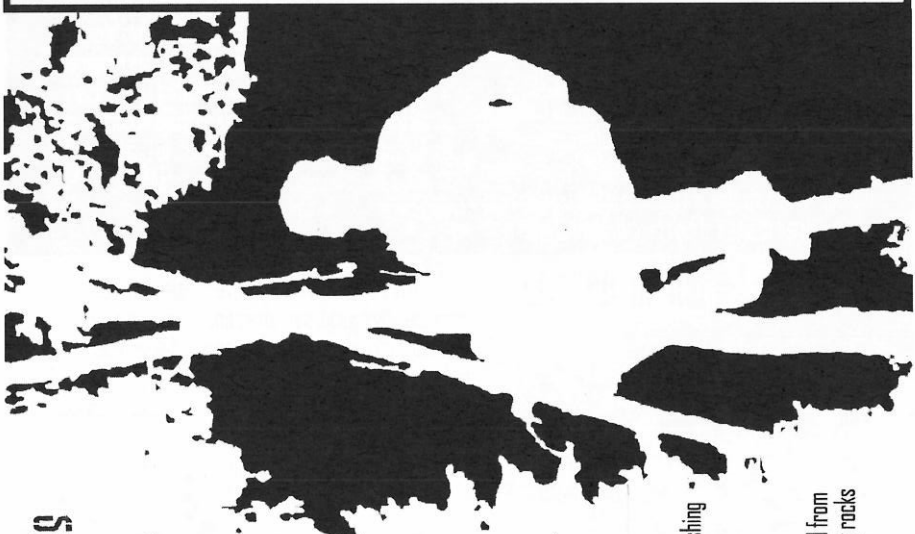
SPECIALTY TIMBERS: Native species such as myrtle, leatherwood, sassafras and celery top pine these are considered prized amongst craftspeople, boat builders etc., and as such fetch a high price. These species, are simply mown in to with a dozer and left on the forest floor. When coupes that are labeled "specialty" it usually means real ancient Rainforest.

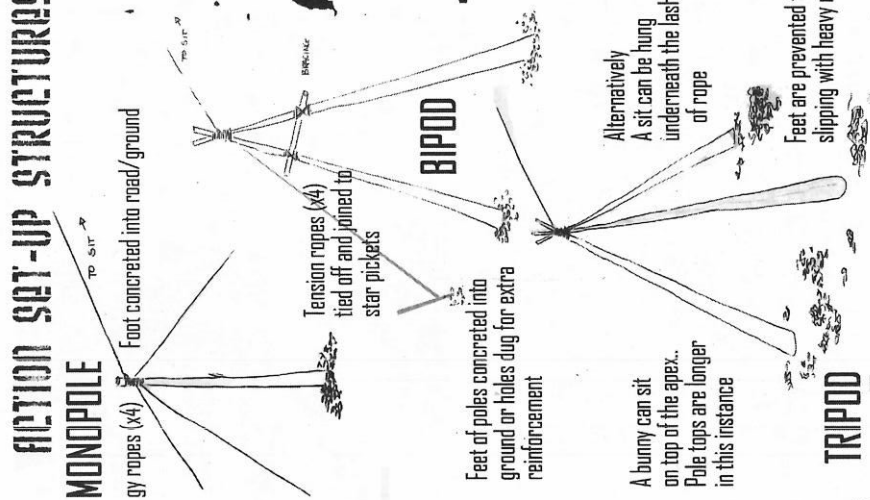
EXCLUSION ZONE: When FT deems that an area needs to be cleared of ferals, an exclusion zone order is clamped down. Large areas of forest can be in an exclusion zone for a very long time. You need permission from Forestry Tasmania to be within the zone. Otherwise anyone found in the exclusion zone is deemed to be trespassing.



LOCK-ON

Attaching yourself to a machine, gate, vehicle by means of a device that you can't be yanked out of. The designs are varied , but by way of example: an elbow lock-on can be a metal tube, into which you insert either both or one arm and lock yourself on! This creation can be wrapped around a machine part, or concreted into the road. When it's in the road, an old (donated!!) vehicle can be placed over it, so that the person is in the vehicle, but locked onto the ground. All ID is removed from the car, plates etc.This technique blocks the road of traffic access, and proves to be a mission and a lengthy time to actually get the person out.(and it's called a dragon).





THE TASMANIAN FOREST FUCKERS WHO'S WHO

Kevin Rudd
Prime Minister

Barry Chipman
Head of Timber
Communities Tasmania

Kim Creak
General Manager
Operations and Sales

Paul Lennon
Tasmanian Premier

Peter Garrett
Federal
Environment
Minister

John Gay
CEO Gunns Ltd

Bob Gordon
Managing
Director
Forestry Tasmania

Robin Gray
Director Gunns

Ken Jeffreys
General Manager
Corporate Relations FT

Evan Rolley
Head of Dept. Premier, Cabinet
(ex Managing Director FT)

HUON OTHERS DERWENT

MIKE FARROW: Huon District Forest Manager
TERRY WARE:(Little Hitler) Senior Forest Subdivision. Terry is le weasel Liaison Officer for Huon Forest Actions
PETER PEPPER: Community Liaison Officer

STEVE WHITELEY: Derwent District Forest Manager
RICHARD SKINNER: Community Liaison Officer

POLITICAL AND OTHER EFFIGIES TO BURN

ERIC ABETZ - TASMANIAN SENATOR
(Ex minister for Fishing, Forests and Conservation)

PENNY WONG -
FEDERAL CLIMATE CHANGE MINISTER

FORESTRY MINISTER
FEDERAL LABOR:
Tony Burke

TASMANIAN LIBERAL
OPPOSITION LEADER: Will Hodgeman

STATE ENVIRONMENT MINISTER:
Michelle O'Byrne

TERRY EDWARDS: Head of Forest Industries Association of Tasmania

FERDIE KROON:
Tasmanian Forest Contractor "Leader"

THE GOODIES IN TASSIE FORESTS POLITICS

PEOPLE TO OFFER FIRE BLANKETS TO

NATIONAL GREENS LEADER & Tasmanian Greens Senator: Bob Brown, legend

TASMANIAN GREENS LEADER STATE MP : Peg Putt

TASMANIAN GREENS SENATOR: Christine Milne

OTHERS

Nick McKim Greens MHA for Franklin
Kim Booth: Greens MHA for Bass
Tim Morris: Greens MHA for Lyons

**"WE CAN SURVIVE AS A SPECIES ONLY IF WE LIVE BY THE RULES OF THE BIOSPHERE.
THE BIOSPHERE HAS ENOUGH FOR EVERYONES NEEDS IF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY RESPECTS THE LIMITS SET BY SUSTAINABILITY AND JUSTICE."**

VANDANA SHIVA

non violent direct action

"If you want to be respected for your actions, then your behaviour must be beyond reproach .... this is how you gain the respect of others. If our lives demonstrate that we are peaceful, humble, and trusted, this is recognised by others. If our lives demonstrate something else, that will be noticed to."

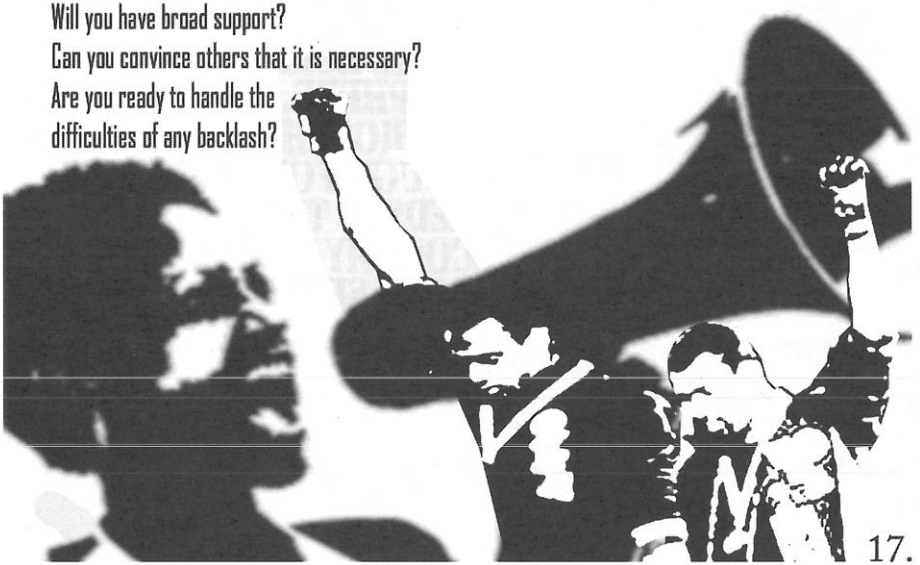
– **Rosa Parks, the black civil rights leader** who refused to give up her seat to a white passenger on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955.

WHAT IS NVDA?

Non-Violent Direct Action (NVDA), is the philosophy that guides our actions in our campaign to protect Tasmania's Southern forests. 'Non-violent' because we reject violence as a means to achieve our ends, and 'direct' because we wish to take our concerns directly to those with whom we disagree. 'Action' because we see action as necessary in achieving desired results. We believe in non-violent methods as the only means to achieve our ends. We reject violence to people and destruction of property in our campaign, because we do not believe that violence will change anything. In fact violence is more likely to turn sympathisers and opponents alike away from considering our ideas and our concerns. Direct actions are primarily defined by their confronting, public, disruptive and possibly illegal nature. They can be done with large or small groups of people. They are most effective when carefully planned.

WHEN ENGAGING IN NVDA AS PART OF A CAMPAIGN IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER

Will an action advance or set back your cause?
Will you have broad support?
Can you convince others that it is necessary?
Are you ready to handle the difficulties of any backlash?



NON VIOLENCE AND THE FOREST CAMPAIGN.

The success of this campaign in gathering massive public support is largely due to our adherence to NVDA principles and the intentional forming of community around the issue. The timber industry and the Government would like nothing better to deal with than a violent and disorganised rabble. They know how to deal with that, it gives them the excuse they need to use force. Instead we have formed a tight-knit community of like-minded people who are committed to non-violent civil disobedience.The potential for violence and aggression exists within any confrontation. NVDA aims to eliminate the potential for violence for the purpose of everyone's safety and for the success of the action. The best way to diffuse aggressive behaviour is to refuse to become a part of it (i.e. by fuelling it with your angry reactions). Recognising the onset of anger in ourselves and in others is the first step to preventing it. In this campaign the NVDA we do in the forest involves holding up work in working coupes, blockading logging roads, community walk-ins. We also stage actions in town such as protests and office occupations. Stopping work in a logging coupe often involves someone nominating to put themselves in a position where they can be arrested, eg. Locking-on to machinery or sitting a tripod or tree-sit. Whilst being arrested can be both a powerful and empowering act, it can also involve putting oneself in an intense and vulnerable situation and for each arrest there are several crucial roles of support and liaison, meaning that there is a valuable part everyone can play within NVDA. Arrests and infringements are one effective avenue for people to act for the forests; but are not the only path for people to take.

ROLES WITHIN AN ACTION

The clear establishment of roles in any given action helps to reduce the potential for violence in unpredictable confrontation situations. Each action is different and requires defined roles to give clarity to the day. By having clear police, forestry and contractor liaisons, media, communications teams and buddies the action can run smoothly and be an effective and empowering day for all. Everyone must be aware of the implications of their actions (e.g. arrest, angry responses by workers, court appearances etc.) and approach the situation in a calm and composed manner. A sense of responsibility to the group is vital if the group is to succeed in their chosen action. Remember that we are always on full public display and there are many waiting for us to make a mistake!!

MAKING NONVIOLENCE WORK

By Starhawk www.starhawk.org

"An ecological understanding of violence sees it as a pattern of relationships that underlies all systems of domination and control. Such systems are characterized by the concentration of resources and the fruits of labour to benefit the few; Top-down decision making, bosses who give orders and issue directives that others must obey.Violence underlies these systems."

VIOLENCE IS:

- The capacity to inflict physical pain, harm or death.
- The capacity to punish by restricting freedom and limiting choices.
- The capacity to withhold vital resources or rewards.
- The capacity to inflict emotional and psychological damage and to shame and humiliate.

"Systems of domination, no matter how powerful they seem, are unstable. They are inherently unsustainable, because to be sustainable any system or organism must be based on balanced, cycling flows of energy and resources"."

In the moment of confrontation, nonviolent self defense means we:
Know what our intention is for the action: literally stopping a meeting?
Building alliances?
Drawing attention to an issue?
The specific choices we make will depend on our intention.
Convey that intention clearly to the group as best we can, so that everyone understands the reasons behind the choices we may make.

ACTION PLANNING TRAINING MANUAL

Excerpts from the Ruckus Society www.ruckus.org

Introduction:

Three arguments for direct action

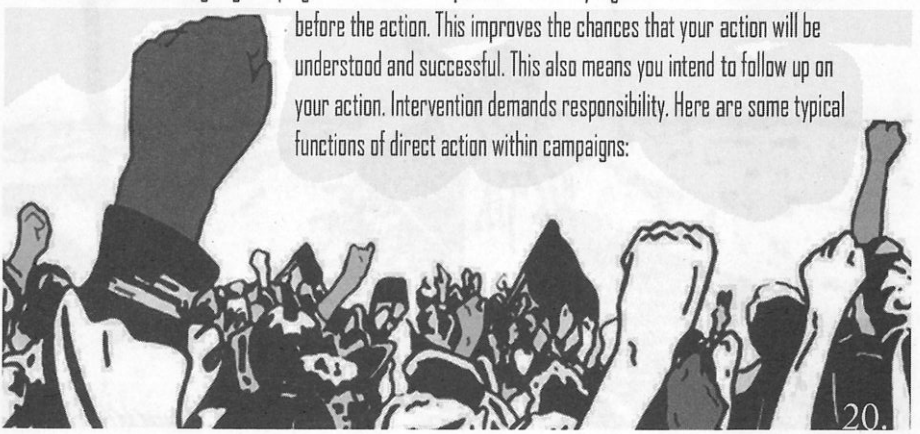
Nonviolent direct action is often misunderstood and just as often criticized. You hear it called ineffective, un-American, or illegal. That the effectiveness of direct action can still be debated strains credulity. The success of Gandhi's campaigns in India or the U.S. Civil Rights Movement should have settled the question.

Since the beginning of the modern environmental movement, the campaigns against nuclear power, to save ancient forests, to achieve a global ban on high-seas drift net fishing and end ocean dumping all have incorporated significant direct action components. The American experience is teeming with nonviolent direct action. One of the most famous direct actions ever, the Boston Tea Party, is patriotically taught in school. These colonial campaigns were so effective that some argue the "shot heard 'round the world" actually delayed American independence.

Most of the world's democracies have been created by acts of conscience against the state. The final argument - that direct action is illegal - is weakest. It is also illegal to break into a home. But if that home is on fire and you fear someone will be hurt, it is OK - it is in fact your responsibility - to break in. This is the argument of competing harms: A smaller harm is accepted if it prevents a greater harm from occurring.

The Functions of Direct Action

As we discuss the uses of direct action, remember one thing: almost all successful actions occur within the context of an ongoing campaign. This means that political - not only logistical - work has been done before the action. This improves the chances that your action will be understood and successful. This also means you intend to follow up on your action. Intervention demands responsibility. Here are some typical functions of direct action within campaigns:



ACTION PLANNING TRAINING MANUAL

ANNOUNCEMENT OR ALARM

You have learned of a situation that demands immediate attention from the public. Your direct action is meant to shine a light on a hidden (more likely, covered-up) danger that must not be kept secret.

REINFORCEMENT

You have been campaigning on an issue, yet somehow the issue remains murky to the public. You take action to clearly define the evil or injustice, and the parties responsible.

PUNCTUATION

Direct action can be used to sustain interest in a campaign. It is a dramatic reminder that the problem has not gone away. Direct action can serve as a milepost - the early anti- nuclear movement marked time by Seabrook occupations - or it may commemorate an outrage that should not be forgotten, such as the fifth anniversary of the Exxon Valdez spill, or ten years since Chernobyl.

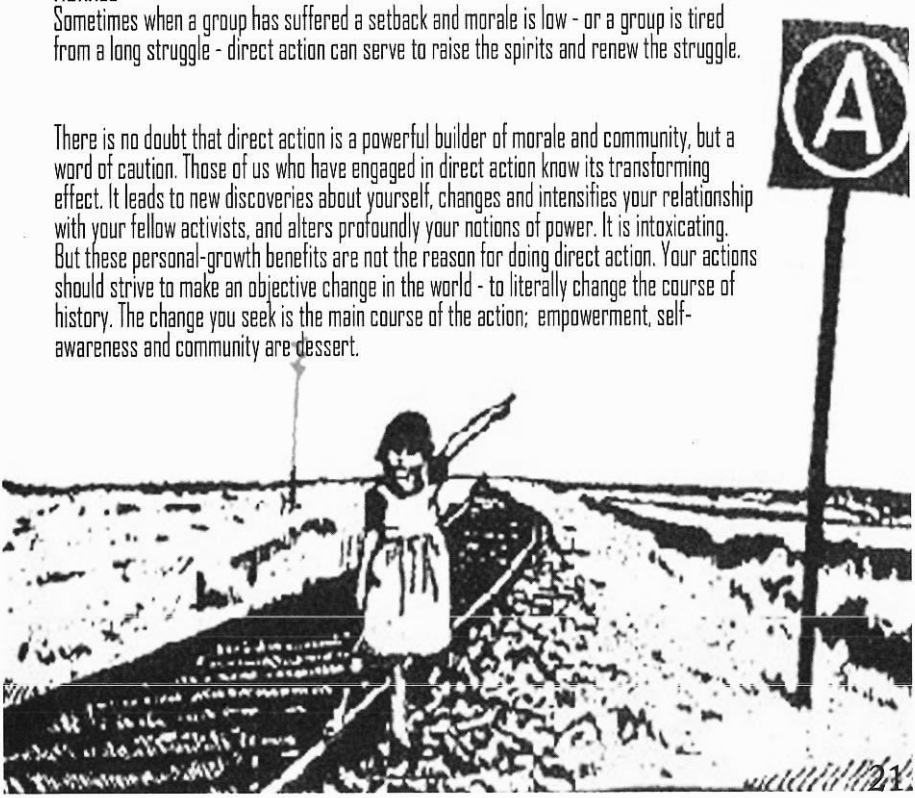
ESCALATION

A frequent use of direct action is to raise the stakes in an ongoing struggle. If a group of activists who have not previously used direct action turns to it, this sends a message that the situation has become critical and direct action is the last remaining avenue of protest.

MORALE

Sometimes when a group has suffered a setback and morale is low - or a group is tired from a long struggle - direct action can serve to raise the spirits and renew the struggle.

There is no doubt that direct action is a powerful builder of morale and community, but a word of caution. Those of us who have engaged in direct action know its transforming effect. It leads to new discoveries about yourself, changes and intensifies your relationship with your fellow activists, and alters profoundly your notions of power. It is intoxicating. But these personal-growth benefits are not the reason for doing direct action. Your actions should strive to make an objective change in the world - to literally change the course of history. The change you seek is the main course of the action; empowerment, self-awareness and community are dessert.



The Symbolic Nature of Direct Action

There is much debate over "hard" vs. "soft" action. You hear it at meetings, around campfires, or read it in an eco-journal: folks advocating "harder" action and often criticizing "soft" action as being "just symbolic." This argument has at times even kept groups on different sides of the divide from working together effectively. But this argument shows a misunderstanding: all direct action is symbolic by nature.

When people say "hard" actions, they usually mean physical intervention or blocking. It is thought that hard actions cost the object of the action "a real price" and often end in arrests.

"Soft" action, on the other hand, is viewed as mostly symbolic - sometimes so noninterventional that it is described simply as a presence or witness. Demonstrations and vigils also tend to wear the soft label. But when facts are examined, distinctions blur.

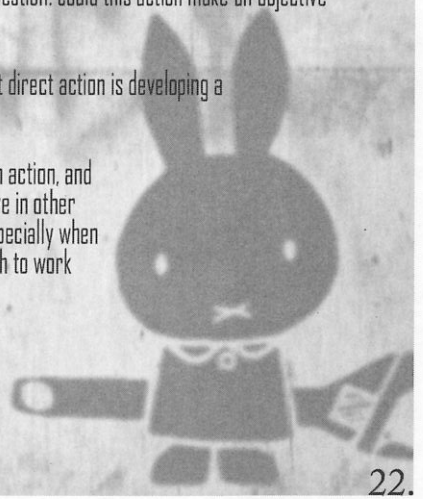
Blockades always end; plugs come out; bladders give out. So is there a difference? You can argue that the difference remains in the risk entailed by the action, or its difficulty.This is, in the end, a red herring. All actions, "hard" or "soft," have the same goal: to make an objective change in the world.

First, activists use direct action to reduce the issues to symbols. These symbols must be carefully chosen for their utility in illustrating a conflict: an oil company vs. an indigenous community, a government policy vs. the public interest.

Then we work to place these symbols in the public eye, in order to identify the evildoer,detail the wrongdoing and, if possible, point to a more responsible option. Frequently,usually by design, the symbolism and conflict are communicated to the wider public,using the media. This symbolic treatment of the issue is, in fact, at the core of action strategy, and knowing this is key to understanding the tactic. When someone criticizes your idea for a direct action as "just symbolic," remind him or her that all are. Ultimately the debate over "hard" vs. "soft" action is only a distraction from the real question: could this action make an objective change in the world?

The most important, and therefore most difficult, thing about direct action is developing a sense of timing - when to seize a political moment.

The second most important thing is creativity in designing an action, and fortunately that's a bit easier. Most of us are already creative in other areas, and this generally transfers well to direct action - especially when you've got a group of committed, focused activists with which to work and trade ideas.

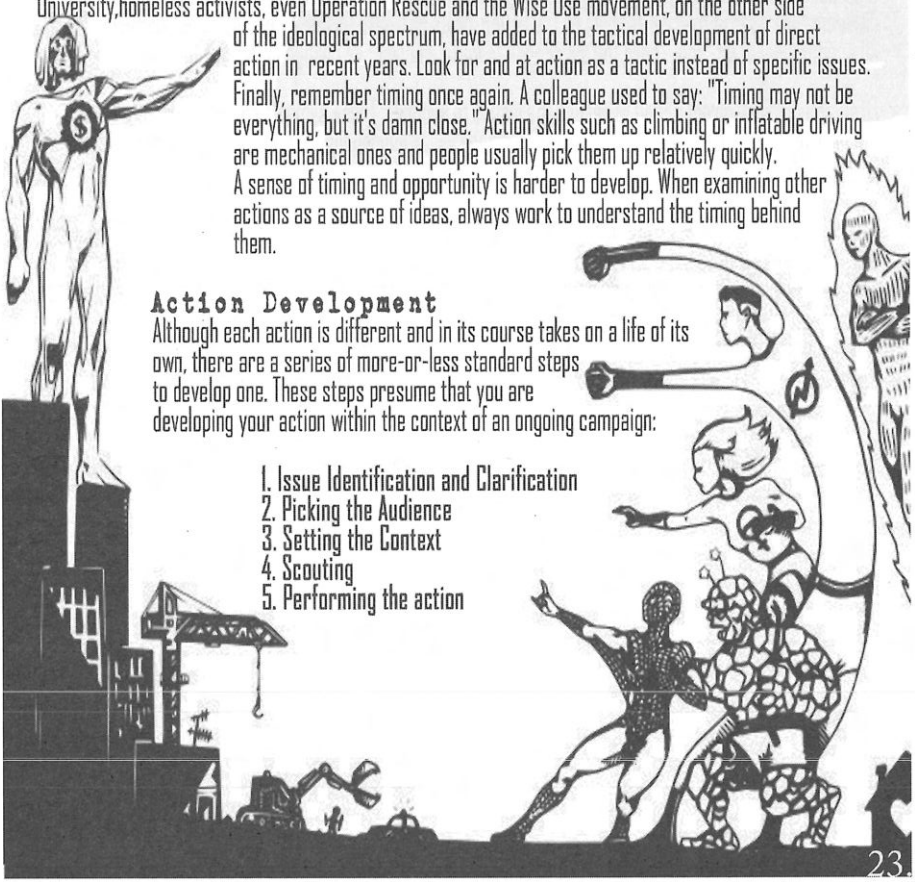


The symbolic nature of D.A continued

There are a number of ways to practice creative brainstorming. Find out which one works for your group of activists. The most crucial factor in brainstorming, of course, is openness to new ideas from all quarters - action leaders must be ready to accept an idea that may come from a team member who has a "minor" role, or is not as experienced in actions.

A close second is a commitment to stay at it until you get it right - hours, days or longer.Brainstorm until you're dry, then analyze what you've come up with and wait for your creative well to fill again. Remember that formal indoor meetings are often the hardest place to be creative. Vary the location for your strategy sessions. David Brower's advice is to close more bars. You'll get your best ideas between midnight and closing time.

Openness to new ideas also includes the ability to see good ideas in other quarters, and appropriate them. You can't copyright an action, so don't be afraid to steal good ideas. Become a student of the ways other groups or individuals are taking action. Pay special attention to direct actions by non-environmental groups, who are doing some of the most creative stuff today. ACT-UP, Queer Nation, the students at Gallaudet University,homeless activists, even Operation Rescue and the Wise Use movement, on the other side of the ideological spectrum, have added to the tactical development of direct action in recent years. Look for and at action as a tactic instead of specific issues. Finally, remember timing once again. A colleague used to say: "Timing may not be everything, but it's damn close." Action skills such as climbing or inflatable driving are mechanical ones and people usually pick them up relatively quickly.
A sense of timing and opportunity is harder to develop. When examining other actions as a source of ideas, always work to understand the timing behind them.



Action Development

Although each action is different and in its course takes on a life of its own, there are a series of more-or-less standard steps to develop one. These steps presume that you are developing your action within the context of an ongoing campaign:

1. Issue Identification and Clarification
2. Picking the Audience
3. Setting the Context
4. Scouting
5. Performing the action

Issue Identification and Clarification

The public has a brief, shifting attention span and a limited ability to absorb new information. That is why you as an activist must keep your campaign and action focused and on message. You must be able to answer three questions: Presuming your overall campaign goals are clear, ask yourself again: Why is an action warranted at this particular point? Does the proposed action have a reasonable chance of benefiting the campaign - of sending a message, moving the debate or raising its profile? What about the political follow-up to the action: Will you be able to exploit the political opportunity your action seeks to create? As environmentalists, we recognize that everything is connected. But we can't attempt to campaign on everything at once, because the public won't hear us. You must define the issues as clearly and simply as possible. For instance, your campaign might be against the Industry in general. But what are you going to focus on right now? Clearcutting, endangered species, habitat and clean water are all good issues, but you can't make a coherent statement about all of them in one action. So decide which aspect of your campaign you're going to emphasize right now. Then work to make everything about the action - location, banner slogan, even what your activists are wearing - speak to that. A word about anger: A lot of us have been fighting the Forest Industry, or nukes, or whatever, for a long time, and sometimes we build up a fair bit of righteous anger. A little anger can be a good thing. It puts a passion in the work. But seek in your action to go beyond expressing your anger. Let them - and the public - know why you're angry. People sometimes get impatient with this arduous process of issue clarification and message development. But it is an absolute prerequisite to the next steps.

Only with a clear understanding of your campaign and the issue can you pick the target audience, set the context, and scout, plan and execute your direct action.

Picking the Target Audience

Picking the target audience is the next step in your action's development. It flows directly from your understanding of what needs to happen in the campaign at this point. In essence you're saying: "I want my target audience to do this: " Is it the general public, government officials, the mill operators, or the corporate executives you are trying to affect? Too often we hear a defiant comrade declare: "I'm sending a message to all of them." Good intentions, but fuzzy politics. Such universal messages are very rare. If you think you're sending a message to "all of them," it often means you haven't thought through your target audience well enough. Each action should reveal what we're against and what we're for. We may be against several things: the mill, the Forest Service, and the corporate suits. But each of these players should be held specifically accountable for their specific actions. Nailing them on the specifics - who did what, and when did they do it - may be harder than issuing a grand indictment, but sends a clearer message. The principle also applies when you're thinking about what segment of the public you're trying to reach.

198 METHODS OF NON-VIOLENT PROTEST & PERSUASION

FORMAL STATEMENTS
1. Public speeches
2. Letters of opposition or support
3. Declarations by organizations and institutions
4. Signed public declarations
5. Declarations of indictment and intention
6. Group or mass petitions

COMMUNICATIONS WITH A WIDER AUDIENCE
7. Slogans, caricatures, and symbols
8. Banners, posters, and displayed communications
9. Leaflets, pamphlets, and books
10. Newspapers and journals
11. Records, radio, and television
12. Skywriting and earthwriting

GROUP REPRESENTATIONS
13. Deputations
14. Mock awards
15. Group lobbying
16. Picketing
17. Mock elections

SYMBOLIC PUBLIC ACTS
18. Displays of flags and symbolic colors
19. Wearing of symbols
20. Prayer and worship
21. Delivering symbolic objects
22. Protest disrobings
23. Destruction of own property
24. Symbolic lights
25. Displays of portraits
26. Paint as protest
27. New signs and names
28. Symbolic sounds
29. Symbolic reclamations
30. Rude gestures

PRESSURES ON INDIVIDUALS
31. "Haunting" officials
32. Taunting officials
33. Fraternization
34. Vigils

DRAMA AND MUSIC
35. Humorous skits and pranks
36. Performances of plays and music
37. Singing

PROCESSIONS
38. Marches
39. Parades
40. Religious processions
41. Pilgrimages
42. Motorcades

HONORING THE DEAD
43. Political mourning
44. Mock funerals
45. Demonstrative funerals
46. Homage at burial places

PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES
47. Assemblies of protest or support
48. Protest meetings
49. Camouflaged meetings of protest
50. Teach-ins

THE METHODS OF SOCIAL NONCOOPERATION
OSTRACISM OF PERSONS
55. Social boycott
56. Selective social boycott
57. Lysistratic nonaction
58. Excommunication
59. Interdict

NONCOOPERATION WITH SOCIAL EVENTS, CUSTOMS, AND INSTITUTIONS
60. Suspension of social and sports activities
61. Boycott of social affairs
62. Student strike
63. Social disobedience
64. Withdrawal from social institutions

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE SOCIAL SYSTEM
65. Stay-at-home
66. Total personal noncooperation
67. "Flight" of workers
68. Sanctuary
69. Collective disappearance
70. Protest emigration (hijrat)

ECONOMIC NONCOOPERATION ACTION BY CONSUMERS
71. Consumers' boycott
72. Nonconsumption of boycotted goods
73. Policy of austerity
74. Rent withholding
75. Refusal to rent
76. National consumers' boycott
77. International consumers' boycott

ACTION BY WORKERS AND PRODUCERS
78. Workers' boycott
79. Producers' boycott

ACTION BY MIDDLE-PEOPLE
80. Suppliers' and handlers' boycott

ACTION BY OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT
81. Traders' boycott
82. Refusal to let or sell property
83. Lockout
84. Refusal of industrial assistance
85. Merchants' "general strike"

ACTION BY HOLDERS OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES
86. Withdrawal of bank deposits
87. Refusal to pay fees, dues, and assessments
88. Refusal to pay debts or interest
89. Severance of funds and credit
90. Revenue refusal
91. Refusal of a government's money

ACTION BY GOVERNMENTS
92. Domestic embargo
93. Blacklisting of traders
94. International sellers' embargo
95. International buyers' embargo
96. International trade embargo

THE METHODS OF ECONOMIC NONCOOPERATION
SYMBOLIC STRIKES
97. Protest strike
98. Quickie walkout (lightning strike)
106. Industry strike
107. Sympathy strike

RESTRICTED STRIKES
108. Detailed strike
109. Bumper strike
110. Slowdown strike
111. Working-to-rule strike
112. Reporting "sick." (sick-in)
113. Strike by resignation
114. Limited strike
115. Selective strike

MULTI-INDUSTRY STRIKES
116. Generalised strike
117. General strike

COMBINATION OF STRIKES AND ECONOMIC CLOSURES
118. Hartal
119. Economic shutdown

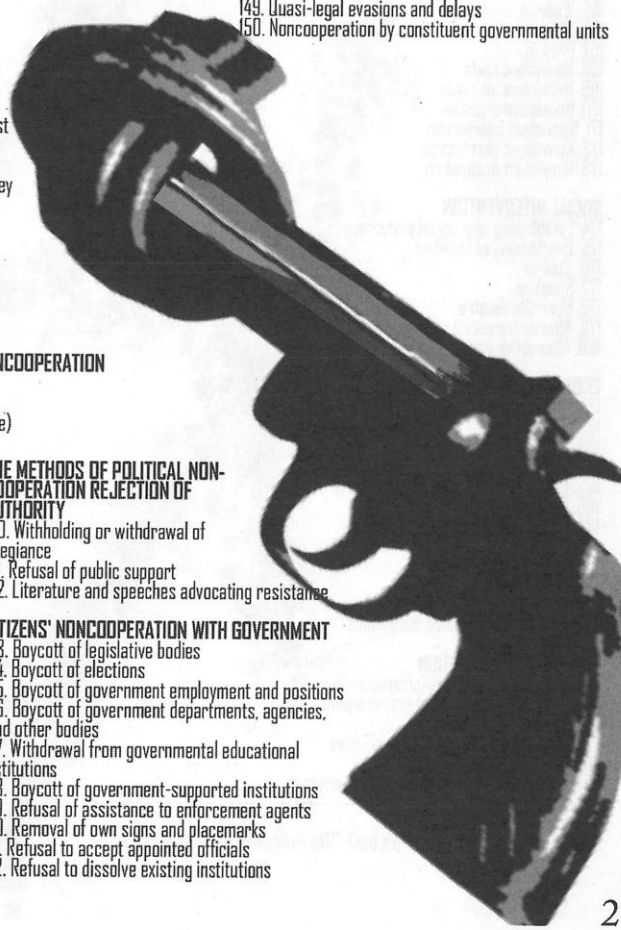
THE METHODS OF POLITICAL NON-COOPERATION REJECTION OF AUTHORITY
120. Withholding or withdrawal of allegiance
121. Refusal of public support
122. Literature and speeches advocating resistance

CITIZENS' NONCOOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT
123. Boycott of legislative bodies
124. Boycott of elections
125. Boycott of government employment and positions
126. Boycott of government departments, agencies, and other bodies
127. Withdrawal from governmental educational institutions
128. Boycott of government-supported institutions
129. Refusal of assistance to enforcement agents
130. Removal of own signs and placemarks
131. Refusal to accept appointed officials
132. Refusal to dissolve existing institutions

CITIZENS' ALTERNATIVES TO OBEDIENCE
133. Reluctant and slow compliance
134. Nonobedience in absence of direct supervision
135. Popular nonobedience
136. Disguised disobedience
137. Refusal of an assemblage or meeting to disperse
138. Sitdown
139. Noncooperation with conscription and deportation
140. Hiding, escape, and false identities
141. Civil disobedience of "illegitimate" laws

ACTION BY GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL
142. Selective refusal of assistance by government aides
143. Blocking of lines of command and information
144. Stalling and obstruction
145. General administrative noncooperation
146. Judicial noncooperation
147. Deliberate inefficiency and selective noncooperation by er
148. Mutiny

DOMESTIC GOVERNMENTAL ACTION
149. Quasi-legal evasions and delays
150. Noncooperation by constituent governmental units



N.V.D.A

INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENTAL ACTION
151. Changes in diplomatic and other representation
152. Delay and cancellation of diplomatic events
153. Withholding of diplomatic recognition
154. Severance of diplomatic relations
155. Withdrawal from international organizations
156. Refusal of membership in international bodies
157. Expulsion from international organisations

THE METHODS OF NONVIOLENT INTERVENTION
PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERVENTION
158. Self-exposure to the elements
159. The fast (fast of moral pressure, hunger strike, satyagrahic fast)
160. Reverse trial
161. Nonviolent harassment

PHYSICAL INTERVENTION
162. Sit-in
163. Stand-in
164. Ride-in
165. Wade-in
166. Mill-in
167. Pray-in
168. Nonviolent raids
169. Nonviolent air raids
170. Nonviolent invasion
171. Nonviolent interjection
172. Nonviolent obstruction
173. Nonviolent occupation

SOCIAL INTERVENTION
174. Establishing new social patterns
175. Overloading of facilities
176. Stall-in
177. Speak-in
178. Guerrilla theatre
179. Alternative social institutions
180. Alternative communication system

ECONOMIC INTERVENTION
181. Reverse strike
182. Stay-in strike
183. Nonviolent land seizure
184. Defiance of blockades
185. Politically motivated counterfeiting
186. Preclusive purchasing
187. Seizure of assets
188. Dumping
189. Selective patronage
190. Alternative markets
191. Alternative transportation systems
192. Alternative economic institutions

POLITICAL INTERVENTION
193. Overloading of administrative systems
194. Disclosing identities of secret agents
195. Seeking imprisonment
196. Civil disobedience of "neutral" laws
197. Work-on without collaboration
198. Dual sovereignty and parallel government

This is available in Gene Sharp's book: "The Politics of Nonviolent Action"

FOREST TYPES

Rainforest: Forest with a closed canopy dominated by one to several of myrtle, sassafras, leatherwood, horizontal, celery-top pine, king billy pine, huon pine. Here in Tasmania, it is cool temperate rainforest.

Wet Sclerophyll Forest: Forest dominated by eucalyptus and with an understorey largely consisting of broad-leaved shrubs and/or ferns (including bracken).

Dry Sclerophyll Forest: Eucalypt forest with an understorey of prickly and small leaved shrubs.

Grassy Forests: Eucalypt forest with an understorey dominated by grasses.

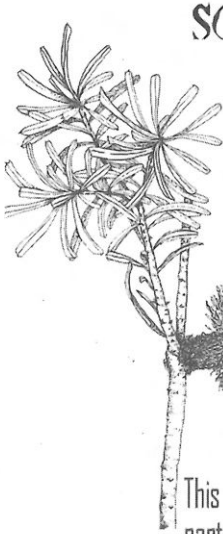
Woodland: The space between tree crowns is greater than the mean diameter of the tree crowns.

Shrub: Vegetation dominated by shrubs 2-8 m tall.

Heath: Vegetation dominated by shrubs 0-2 m tall.

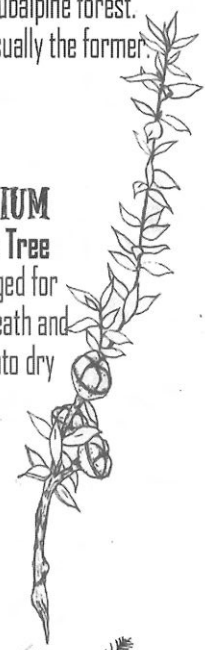
Oldgrowth: Old growth forest, has not been disturbed by industrial civilisation. Old growth forests are forests whose natural cycles of growth have not been disturbed by logging, building roads or clearing. Old growth forests typically contain large live trees, large dead trees (sometimes called "snags"), and large logs. Old growth forests usually have multiple vertical layers of vegetation representing a variety of tree species and age classes.

SOME TREES AND PLANTS OF SOUTHERN TASMANIA



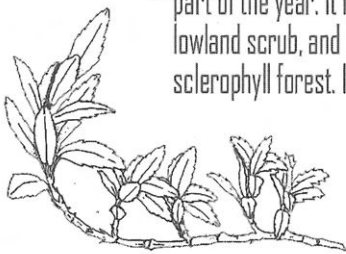
BANKSIA MARGINATA - Honeysuckle, Banksia

This widespread species occurs as a shrub in heath, costal scrub, scrub, dry sclerophyll forest, grassy forest and subalpine forest. The leaves may be entire or serrated, although usually the former.



LEPTOSPERMUM SCOPARIUM - Manuka, Tea Tree

This species usually occurs on sites which are waterlogged for part of the year. It is a widespread dominant of costal heath and lowland scrub, and extends as an understorey species into dry sclerophyll forest. It is only rarely found as a tree.



ANODOPETALUM BIGLANDULOSUM - Horizontal

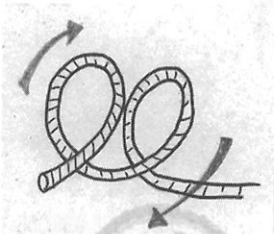
This endemic tree is widespread in rainforests and usually occurs as an understorey tree to tall eucalyptus.

ACACIA DEALBATA -Silver Wattle

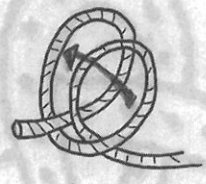
A tall understorey tree or dominant in wet sclerophyll forest, to a small shrub in the understorey of dry sclerophyll and grassy forest and woodland.

KNOTS

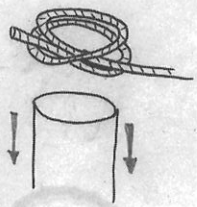
CLOVE HITCH



STEP 1: Take your line and make a overhand loop, then form an underhand loop to the right of the initial overhand loop.

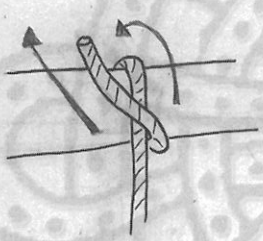


STEP 2: Place the underhand loop on top of the overhand loop.

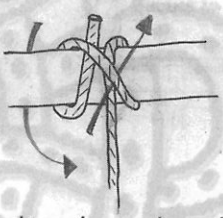


STEP 3: Place the two loops over the post and pull both ends of the rope to tighten.

CLOVE HITCH #2

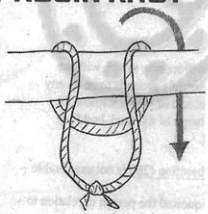


STEP 1: Pass your line around the bar you wish to tie it to, bringing the working end under the bar and crossing it over the standing part.

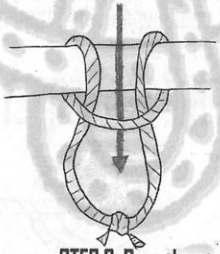


STEP 2: Pass the working end over and around the bar again. Bring it under the bar and tuck it under its own standing part. Pull to tighten.

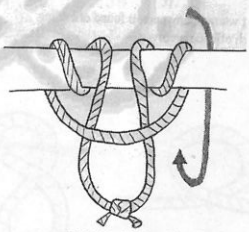
PRUSIK KNOT



STEP 1: Make a bight in the sling. Place the central rope over this bight, then bend the bight back over the central rope.



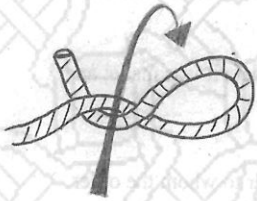
STEP 2: Pass the standing part of your sling through its bight, so that it goes over the central rope, then under the bight.



STEP 3: Take the bight and turn it around the central rope again, so that its is now back under the standing part. Pass the standing part back through once more and pull to tighten.

KNOTS CONT...

FIGURE 8



STEP 1: Take the working end of your line and make an overhand loop. Take hold of the loop and twist upwards, forming the figure of eight shape.

STEP 2: Take the working end round from behind the standing part and pass through the first loop, (going first over, then under).

STEP 3: Pull the working end and standing part to tighten.

BOWLINE

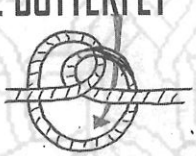
STEP 1 : Bring the working end over the standing part to form an overhand loop. Take hold of the loop and move it clockwise , so that it comes up and over both the standing part and working end. This will create a second, smaller loop.

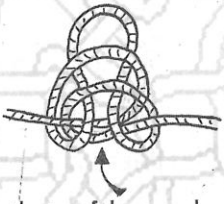
STEP 2: Pass the working end through the loop. Take it round under the standing part of the line.

STEP 3: Bring the working end back to the front and feed it through the second loop, going first over, then under. Take hold of the working end and standing part and pull to tighten.

ALPINE BUTTERFLY

STEP 1: Take your line and make an overhand loop at the point where you wish to tie the knot. Taking hold of the top of the loop, twist it towards the right so that it looks like a Figure 8.



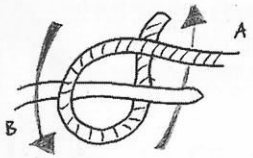


STEP 2 & 3: Taking the top of the upper loop Fold it down behind the line enlarging it as you go. Then taking the centre of the upper loop fold it up over the line and pass it up through the smaller loop. Pull to tighten.

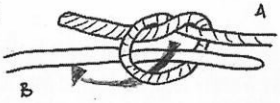
KNOTS CONT...

FISHERMANS KNOT

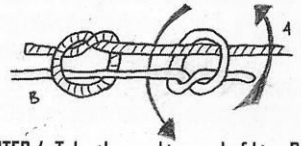
STEP 1: Place the two lines parallel, one above the other, with the ends facing in opposite directions.



STEP 2: Take the working end of the upper line A and form a clockwise overhand loop encompassing the standing part of the lower line B, going first under, then over line B.



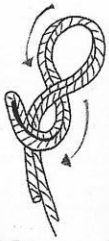
STEP 3: Pass the working end of line A back over its own standing part before passing it back through the loop, taking it first under and then over itself so that it faces in the same direction as it did initially



STEP 4: Take the working end of Line B and repeat the above: form a clockwise overhand loop encompassing the standing part of line A, going under, then over. Pass it back over its own standing part then take it under, over back through the loop. Pull both standing parts to tighten.

RETHREAD FIGURE 8

STEP 1: Take hold of your line in the centre and bring the working end round to create a bight. Hold the bight so that you are now working with a double line.



STEP 2: Bring your doubled line back under its standing part, then over the standing part, thus creating the two loop figure eight.

STEP 3: Bring the bight through the upper loop of the eight, going first under, then over.
Take hold of the bight and the standing part and pull to tighten.

ACTION ESSENTIALS

A brief guide for activists, hippies and tourists

INTRO

There's heaps of preparation that has to be done, before an action, to make it run smoothly and successfully. A really successful action does more than just stop work for the day, puts pressure on the forces of darkness or costing them lots of money. It also gets media attention. Therefore gets the action's message out to people and has the potential to advance the overall campaign. Every action is part of the broader campaign to have Tassie's old growth protected. Therefore everyone should be aware of how the campaign operates and how all the aspects of direct action, including the activists participating in it, reflect on this campaign. Participants in the action should be clued in as to why the action is happening, what the point is, what we are trying to achieve and understand and accept the principles of non-violent direct action (NVDA) and Security Culture. A lot of action preparation occurs in town and so it's important that some people from camp take the initiative to come into town and find out what needs to be done, especially with tasks like painting banners,buying materials,making costumes and helping prepare media and information kits etc.

ACTION ROLES & GUIDELINES

These roles are all things that do need to be done, but most are over-lapping and performed at different times throughout the action. A successful action can be pulled off by less than 12 people, (the more the better obviously), but it is not a critical thing, [Six people can perform the jobs just as well and gain a similar outcome.] It is essential however that liaison, black wallaby, media runs are thoroughly solidified in the plan, before the proverbial shit comes rollin' on down the road. A 1:25000 map of the area you are in is also good to have on you.

ACTION ESSENTIALS
A brief guide for activists, hippies and tourists

CONTRACTOR / FORESTRY LIAISON: This person approaches the contractors/ forestry when they first arrive. It's important not to wait until the contractors approach you, but to get to them first and explain what's going on (they're not going to be working today, the reasons why we're here, basic set-up of structures/safety). To avoid looking intimidating and getting the workers on the defensive straight away, it's best if only one or two people approach the contractors rather than the whole group. It's essential that this person can keep their cool in an aggravated situation and talk calmly and rationally with the contractors or forestry. This person should know their stuff in order to hold a convincing argument. It's crucial to remember and act accordingly with the fact that we are in a very unique situation with the contractors. While this dialogue is occurring, it is safest to have someone filming the interaction, even if from a distance. Try not to walk too far away from the main group, there is always safety in numbers.

POLICE LIAISON: The point of this role is to explain to the police what's going on and the basic set-up and safety of the structures. It's important that the police liaison can keep their head and communicate in a calm yet assertive manner and not be inclined to make decisions without consulting others. Be polite but firm, keep your word, talk straight, don't assist directly in any direct actions whilst you are police liaison. Make it absolutely clear that you are not the "leader" and do not have control of other people's actions, you are simply responsible for ensuring the flow of communications between police and activists. Make it clear that any problems will be put in writing and forwarded to police superiors and the ombudsman. The police liaison person needs to be with police and stick with them. This person can also negotiate for their self or someone else to stay as a 'buddy' for the bunny after the rest of the group has been moved on. Be calm, cool and collected! Best to record the names of who you deal with and keep a record of the interaction or any incidents. Also report to the police officers any incidents that may have occurred before they arrived. Be aware that police will use everything you say as part of their investigation and information gathering.

GROUND CREW: When crew rocks up to chosen venue, 'ground crew' kicks in...structure set up/ helping riggers if need be/ sit construction/ banner set up/ road scrubbers/collecting fire wood/ starting fire/ making coffee for all/ scouts up and down the road on look out with 2way contact to set up point, to warn of any oncoming impediments, depending on location, numbers on the ground and security presence. Ground crew should be alert, aware and responsible. There's always stuff to do, so if you're at a loss please feel free to ask.

SCRUBBERS: is setting up a road block using logs, branches, witches hats etc in order to slow down any approaching trucks or cars and stop them before they crash into the blockade and splatter an activist. Scrubbing is best done at the end of a long straight so it can be seen in time for a truck to stop, a fire is always helpful, (outside of fireban season). Also best done when all the activist cars are outta there!!!

BUNNY: The bunny is the person with their life on the line/ in the arrestable position (ie, locked-on, up a tree-sit, on a tripod). It's important that the bunny is briefed about what may happen, the potential consequences of their arrest and is physically and emotionally ready to be in a vulnerable position. The bunny must have enough food, water, warm clothes, tarps etc. being prepared for the longest possible duration of their sit.

ACTION ESSENTIALS

BUNNY BUDDY: This role is to ensure the person in the tree sit/lock-on etc is comfortable, has all they need. Once police have arrived if a person can be negotiated to stay with the bunny after everyone else has been forced to leave it is their job to provide support to the person in the arrestable position and keep an eye on the police removing them. Ideal if this person has a camera on them. Even if it is a stills camera that can be kept in a pocket so as to avoid having it taken off you and is available to be used at a necessary time. However it's become common that everybody is instructed to leave or be arrested. Hence black wallaby kicks in and is uber important....

BLACK WALLABY: Black wallabies are stealthy and hide out in the forest keeping an eye on things and taking sneaky footage of what's going on. They supply food and water to the bunny when they can, along with emotional support to the lone bunny. If the bunny isn't allowed to have someone on the ground with them black wallabies can/should stay in two way contact. Black wallaby should always have an eye on the bunny, their blockade structures, filming actions of police, rescue, FT etc. If the situation occurs that work continues within the coupe, steer clear of working area, making contractors aware of your presence with shouts and calls, so as to steer clear of 'em physically.

BUDDY SYSTEM: Each person with a role should have a partner whose job it is to stick with them and provide support throughout the course of the action. The aim is for protection of crew and the completion of roles. Ground crew without specific roles should also have a buddy, this adds an extra element of safety and support - particularly if the action becomes aggressive and involves a big walk-out or hiding in the forest or coupe. The forest can be a very easy place to get lost in, so if you are unfamiliar with the area, or unsure about what to do, buddy up with someone experienced. Watching out for each other is at the core of this elemental role, but should also have specific nominations.

VIDEO FOOTAGE: The number one purpose of having a video camera on site is for the protection of activists. It is a highly effective tool in the face of rough interactions, contractors don't want to be filmed beating the shit out of us! And it is recognized as a vitally important tool for front line direct action. The second purpose is to get images out to the media. Ideal situation is to have one person with a video camera that is focused on safety and one person on the media. The dream situation is to have everyone with a camera, that is on and filming. The ideal shots contain banners and/or structures, beauty devastation and also no swearing, no zooming in and out and ideally are filmed using a tripod. For footage to be usable on the telivision, you need to hold a shot still for a minimum of 5 seconds with NO ZOOM. Don't follow people around with the camera's eye let them walk in out or thru the shot. Check with crew who are at the action if they're happy to have their face in the footage, and if not, let them know to keep clear of the camera and treat it as they would a forestry or copper camera. Double up on footage and think of stash spots.

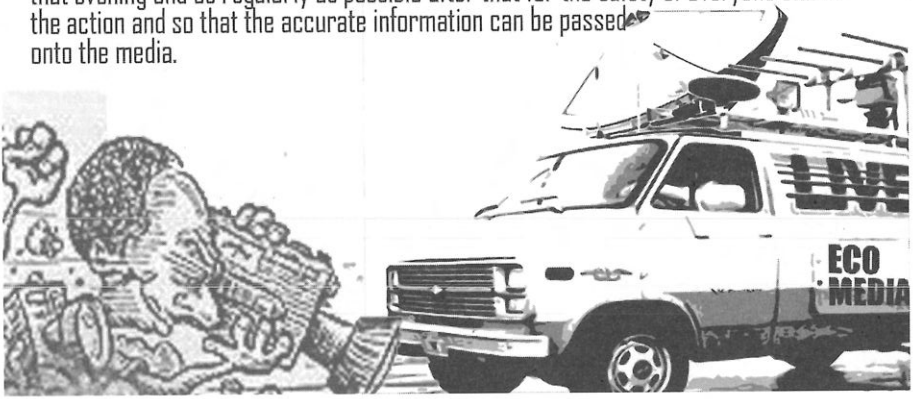
ACTION ESSENTIALS

VIDEO CAMERA BUDDY: This person sticks with the filmer like glue and basically watches their back. There have been incidences of cameras being taken by contractors, photographers threatened etc. so it is really important to have a strong support buddy.

MEDIA RUN/DRIVER: This person is responsible for getting the footage, the stills and the film editor to town to edit the footage and get it to the town media team ON TIME. Usually the footage has to be dropped off to the stations before 3pm, so we have a rough guideline of getting to Hobart by 1pm so there is enough time for editing. If this is your job, make sure you know how long it's going to take to walk out of the site, get to the car/pick up and drive into Hobart. The footage is normally taken to the media by the spokesperson, so best be in communication with that person.

MEDIA SPOKESPERSON/TEAM: The media spokesperson and media team are the media's point of contact in town and are responsible for writing and distributing media releases, contacting the media and speaking on behalf of the campaign for the action. The media team and particularly the media spokesperson must really know their stuff if they are going to be in communication with the media and speaking on behalf of the campaign. They also edit footage before it gets to the station.

TOWN COMMUNICATIONS: Communications to town must occur regularly for lots of very good reasons. It is essential that the people in town doing media know if there have been any changes to the original set-up plan, when the police arrive and importantly when the bunny is arrested. This is very important, not only for media, but more importantly, for the safety and well being of the bunny, i.e. picking up from the cop shop, and getting them legals etc if they are held in remand.
Town communications is important for arranging pickups of people leaving the forest and drop offs. If the action lasts longer than a day people in town must be contacted that evening and as regularly as possible after that for the safety of everyone still at the action and so that the accurate information can be passed onto the media.



ACTION ESSENTIALS

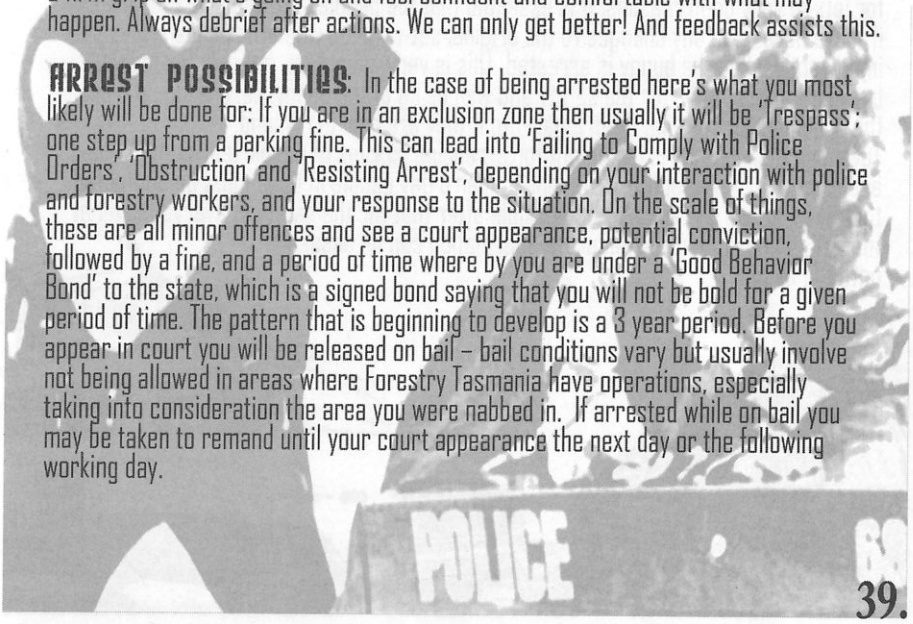
FOOD & WATER: Enough food and water for the entire duration of the action should be taken in on the first night, in case supplies can't be taken in later. Especially enough water for the bunny. If the action is going to last for more than a day then a stash camp should be set up a few hundred metres from the action. Scout for 'local creeks' in the initial scout of the area. Only use the water from the creeks if upstream from a road/clearfell/plantation and collect water where it is running, not stagnant.

COMMUNICATIONS: Buy credit for the mobile phone, extra credit is always a good idea. Make sure phone is charged. An extra mobile phone battery is also a good resource.

PHONE NUMBERS: Everyone should have a few phone numbers on them, particularly anyone in an arrestable position. Everyone is potentially arrestable and should carry the number of the town contact person or lawyer. In security culture land, this should be written in permanent texter somewhere sneaky on your person preferably without a name attached to it.

ACTION BRIEF: Before an action everyone should be briefed on why this particular action is occurring, have a look at the media release and how it fits in to the rest of the campaign, or at least have an idea of the message. It's also important to discuss what may happen at the action, conduct a legal briefing, make sure everyone understands their roles and make sure any new or inexperienced kids have a firm grip on what's going on and feel confident and comfortable with what may happen. Always debrief after actions. We can only get better! And feedback assists this.

ARREST POSSIBILITIES: In the case of being arrested here's what you most likely will be done for: If you are in an exclusion zone then usually it will be 'Trespass'; one step up from a parking fine. This can lead into 'Failing to Comply with Police Orders', 'Obstruction' and 'Resisting Arrest', depending on your interaction with police and forestry workers, and your response to the situation. On the scale of things, these are all minor offences and see a court appearance, potential conviction, followed by a fine, and a period of time where by you are under a 'Good Behavior Bond' to the state, which is a signed bond saying that you will not be bold for a given period of time. The pattern that is beginning to develop is a 3 year period. Before you appear in court you will be released on bail – bail conditions vary but usually involve not being allowed in areas where Forestry Tasmania have operations, especially taking into consideration the area you were nabbed in. If arrested while on bail you may be taken to remand until your court appearance the next day or the following working day.

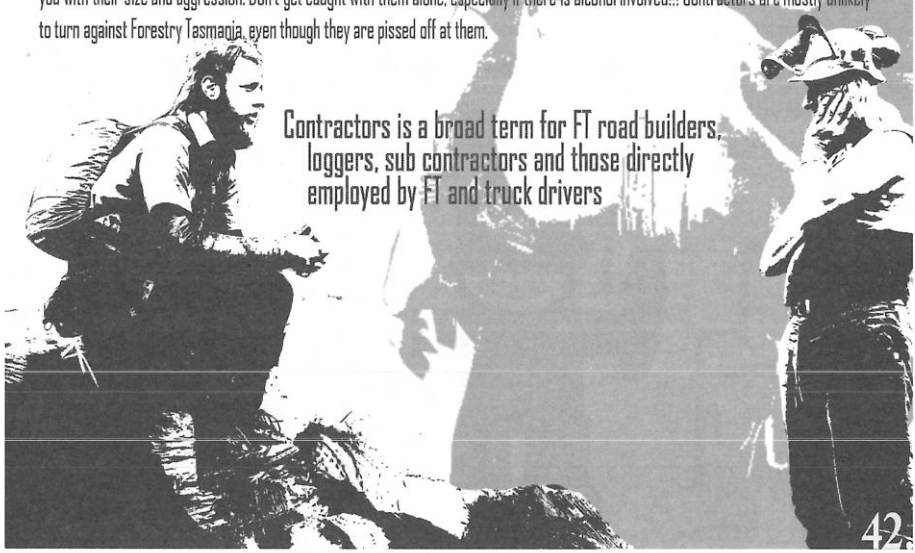


DEALING WITH CONTRACTORS, F.T, POLICE & MEDIA

Contractors

In the cold morning half light, men dispatch themselves to go to work. Then they find their way to debt freedom blocked by a bunch of "dole bludgers" who want to "hug a fucking tree" and prevent good citizens, such as themselves, from conducting their (l)awful right and duty...!!! It is tempting to bash on at them about being forest fuckers, tell 'em to get a new job, tell 'em that they are the cause of climate change and tell 'em all about the circle of life (while twiddling your finger in a circular motion hoping that your coming across more like Mufassa than Simba!)...ever hear the expression "Willful waste leads to woeful want"?

We continually find ourselves in the situation of spending time with these men, in what they consider their territory, and that's a pretty fair consideration. It thus assimilates fertile ground for the meeting of two halves. We have a lot to gain from engaging the receptive logger in conversation about alternatives within the industry. Chatting about why the hell we are way out in remote wilderness, in a real basic way and being up front and human with them. Most of these guys are led to believe that we're all sorts of crazy things (including payrollees of TWS). We tend to believe we are out there coz we are powerless to do anything else immediate, and they are there because they have to go where ever they're sent. We're both on the bottom rung of the ladder. These guys will have their licence revoked if they refuse to go to a contentious coupe. Lots are working to pay off machines (albeit forest fucking machines), but their necks are on the line too, we just have different lines. Discussing with them the reasons that we're out there risking our lives, the reasons these places are so so bloody important, and realising that very often, these guys are caught by the short and curlies. They are mostly old Tassie stock, several generations of logging in the family. They come from a different culture, or just haven't cottoned on yet. Now wouldn't it be better to help them cotton rather than shout abuse and release frustration upon them? The power of change could very well lie in the hands of these men, the workforce. Imagine a logger walk out, a mass realisation, and a trust, found within themselves, that if they walk away from old growth destruction, they and their loved ones won't starve. Our interactions with them can help both us and them to learn. Of course some contractors are maniacs, but so are some forest defenders. Some contractors are violent and will resort to violence in their frustration. They will use filthy language, threaten you with their size and aggression. Don't get caught with them alone, especially if there is alcohol involved!!! Contractors are mostly unlikely to turn against Forestry Tasmania, even though they are pissed off at them.



Contractors is a broad term for FT road builders, loggers, sub contractors and those directly employed by FT and truck drivers

DEALING WITH CONT....

Forestry Tasmania

Now ya want to know the scum of the earth. Welcome to the lying, money and land grabbing, dirty fucking dodgy realm that is Forestry Tasmania. In the Huon District in the South dealings are usually with one Terry Ware. He is the Forest Practices Officer. Sometimes dealings are conducted with Mick Farrow, the District Forester, or Ken Jeffries, the Corporate relations Manager. They'll try and cajole, they'll try and be 'friends' but they are FT through and through. Everything you say, they can and will use against you. FORESTRY ARE DODGY FUCKERS.

They are entirely convinced they are doing everything right by the earth and the people of Tasmania. They treat their workers like shit and lie to them as much as they lie to us, if not more. A new wave has begun, and it's highly likely that the future will see it elevated. FT can and have begun to issue statutory declarations that individuals are within either exclusion zones or areas that they don't want us in. To bring charges against us.

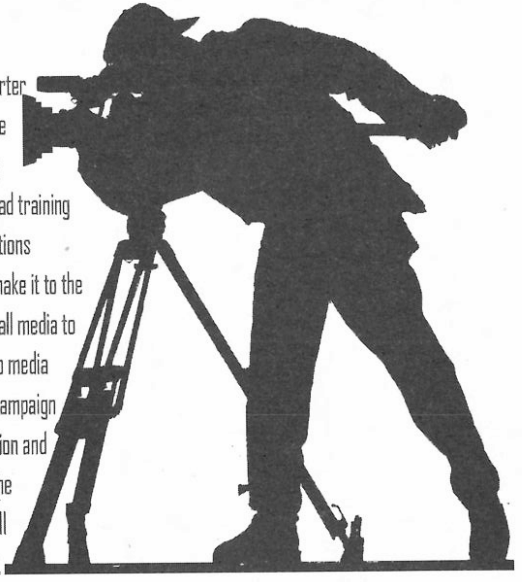
Its not even their bloody forest IT IS NOT THEIR FORESTS but they can direct us to leave, if we don't, the police can arrest us on site. It's hard to get any info out of them on the ground, they are guarded creatures. Beware their powers of persuasion, FT officers will spout a humorous amount of bullshit at you to get you to lock off/ descend. They're full of shite and scare tactics of juvenile proportions. Forestry are not our friends. They will not give us anything (unless it's inadvertent media attention or grief) Forestry Tasmania does not have the power or intention, in the end, to protect forests

Police

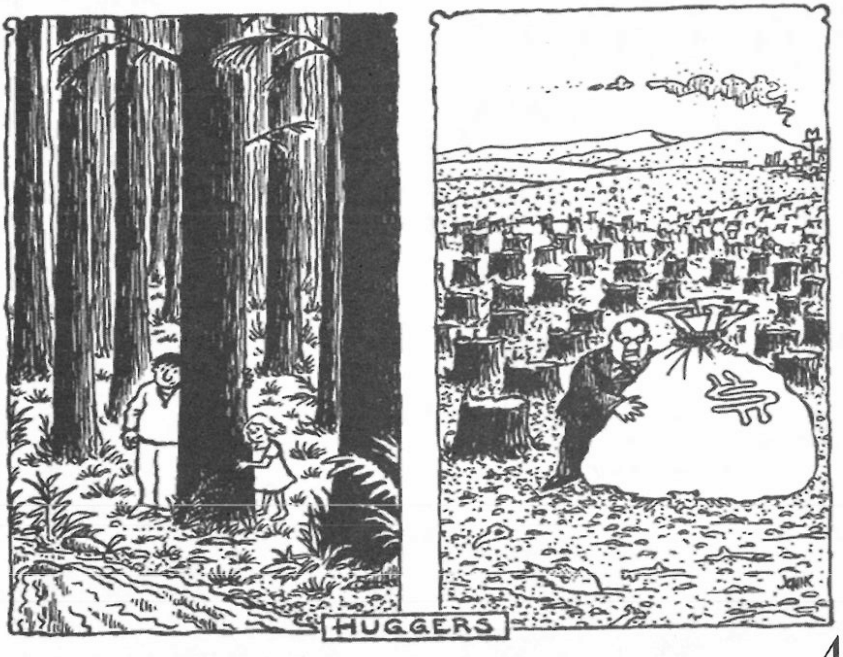
It depends how much trouble you want to get into really. If you're getting busted, and choose to quarrel, run or attack in any form, it can come back to haunt you, within the court. It can get you a conviction, which lets face it is pretty shit, especially when we know that the laws are bodgy, simply by turning us into the bad guys instead of dealing with the reality. But this is the system we find ourselves in. The coppers just say they have a job to do too..keep in mind that it is highly likely that a lot of 'em are on our side. So far they haven't been too crazy with us (with one exemption of course!!) Depending on your standing within the bigger picture and your personal vibes toward such authoritative figures it's pretty much up to yourself, as all things are.,

DEALING WITH CONT....

MEDIA



Always be on the ball always with media. A good reporter can twist anything you say into a 10 second sound bite of what they think the public wants to hear. It's really hard to beat them at their game, so if you have not had training in dealing with the media, please don't try it. At all actions (town ones specifically as they often won't or can't make it to the forest) there is a delegated media person, so direct all media to that person. Make sure that others do the same. If no media person is around, just give them the number of the campaign centre and/or town media crew. If you are at an action and are asked to comment by the media, refer them to the media liaison. Be aware that the camera is on and all the images you make public impact on the campaign.



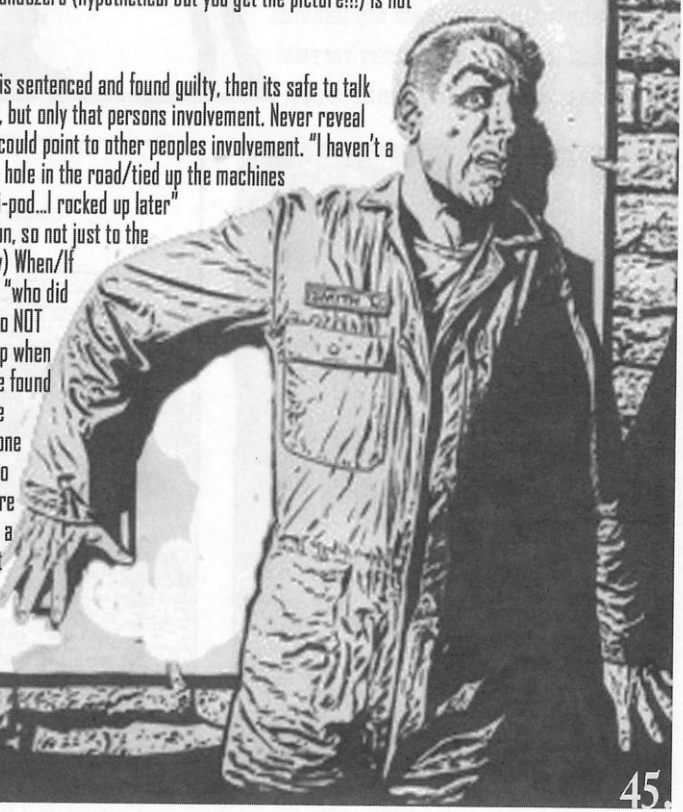
SECURITY CULTURE
FOR DIRECT ACTION
A BRIEF INTRO

Security Culture is the practice of recognising what is, and isn't safe to talk about, when, to whom and where you're talking. It is a necessity for us to develop these habits, to pass them on to each other and for us to recognize when there has been a lack, be it out of ignorance, forgetfulness or moments of weakness...and address the lack at once.

What Compromises our Security Culture?

Talking outside your core group about your plans or someone else's for up coming illegal actions. Your participation or someone else's in illegal actions (before legal steps have been implemented) Someone else's knowledge of any such actions.Using phones, internet, e-mails, and insecure venues (activist homes and group meeting places) to plan major strategy is a no-no, as these places and forms of communication are easily monitored and most probably are monitored.The only people who need to hear about upcoming actions are those involved, this is on every level, where, when, what technology is to be used etc. Talking about this stuff loosely, loudly, in public, braggingly and drunkenly is a danger. A group of fezzers drinking beer on the town lawns, planning how to take six bulldozers (hypothetical but you get the picture!!!) is not secure.

When an activist is sentenced and found guilty, then its safe to talk about that action, but only that persons involvement. Never reveal information that could point to other peoples involvement. "I haven't a clue who put that hole in the road/tied up the machines /stuck up that tri-pod...I rocked up later" (This is post action, so not just to the cops and forestry) When/If anybody asks you "who did this set up" you do NOT know..."I rocked up when it was all here/we found it/it was just here /that person is gone anyway we have no clue how it got here and wouldn't have a clue how to take it down anyway!!!!



SECURITY CULTURE

What you carry on your person can result in a backlash on yourself and others
- ID. If you're a bunny, it's a good idea to have id on you at the cop shop. If you're planning on not being arrested, summonsed, its not necessary. If you're "un arrestable" (our theory, most certainly not taken on board by the law), its good to keep it as far away from you as you can.
-**Ghanga (or any illegal substance)** if you have to have it...stash it, and not on your person when the cops rock up, especially if your in an arrestable situation. Best not to have it at all.
-**Mobile phones** with contacts in the memory. If you carry one, make sure it's turned off and has a pin active. Write on your body in an unseen place, with permanent marker any phone numbers you might need. Then stand on tippy toes turn around three times and sing a song of six pence in a frock that matches your aura of the future self, and be sure to assure your family that you haven't joined a cult....at all !!!

Basically its thinking about the consequences of what you have on you before you leave your base. Be hyper-aware of or don't take any incriminating notes, journals, photos, flash cards, video tapes etc. Or anything that is strategic. Please remember that what actions you take as an individual are seen as the actions of the group as a whole. PLEASE ACT RESPONSIBLY AND INTELLIGENTLY.

Some paranoid Thoughts to ponder and keep you awake at night

- We never know who we're talking to, either face to face or over the phone. When it comes to phone conversations, don't talk graphically or in detail. Vagueness of description, codes or just not saying much are good things to undertake as a group.
- When it comes to face to face discussions keep in the back of your mind that there are people with ulterior motives, not most, and it is a horrible thing to have to bring into our bubble, but it is a reality and does happen. We don't need to brag and there is a time and place for delicate discussions. It's good to chat with interested strangers, but to go overboard and give too much detail is a risk to yourself, and others.
- Always remember the cops are trained to get information from people without those people knowing what hit 'em...don't tell them anything other than what's been discussed by the group (ie. Safety, numbers in the immediate area), which is the role of police liaison, and the bunny if/when they choose to speak at all to the cops but good for us all to ponder paranoidly on!)

"For direct action movements to continue, we need to consider our security more seriously. Good security should be made one of our strengths." Aunty Balaclava

Tasmanian Wildlife

Tasmania is abundant with wildlife, the forest habitat of Tasmania's wildlife is rapidly disappearing. Amongst an array of wildlife are Birds in their abundance, Bandicoots, Potoroos, Dunnarts, Antechinus, Bettongs, Potoroos, Bats, Snakes, Lizards. Below is a description of some of the wildlife that grace this unique island

Wedge Tailed Eagle

The wedge -tailed eagle is found in a wide variety of habitats. It is almost black when mature, has feathered legs and a long wedge-shaped tail. It is a massive bird which can weigh up to 5 kg, with a wing span of up to 2.2 m or just over 7 feet.They use very traditional nests almost always in very large eucalypts sheltered from the wind. They are very shy nesters and will often desert their nests if disturbed by land clearing, particularly early on in the breeding season, which is August to January. Breeding eagles need over 10 ha of surrounding forest especially uphill of a nest tree. The Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagles have been isolated for 10 000 years from their mainland counterparts and have become a separate subspecies. With only about 130 pairs successfully breeding each year in Tasmania, the wedge-tailed eagle is listed as endangered. The major threats to the species include habitat loss, nest disturbance, collisions and electrocutions with powerlines and persecution through shooting, trapping and poisoning by thoughtless persons.

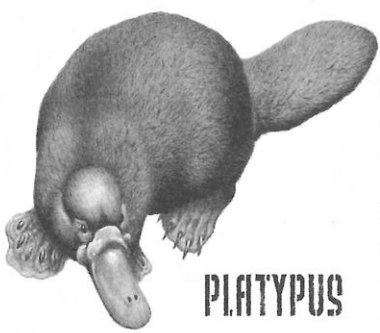
Tasmanian Devil

The world's largest surviving carnivorous marsupial, the devil has a thick-set, squat build, with a relatively large, broad head and short, thick tail. The fur is mostly or wholly black, but white markings often occur on the rump and chest. Body size also varies greatly, depending on the diet and habitat. Adult males are usually larger than adult females. Large males weigh up to 12 kg, and stand about 30 cm high at the shoulder. A devastating disease is sweeping through Tasmania's devil population, killing more than 90% of adults in high density areas and 40-50% in medium-low density areas. Devils are widespread in Tasmania from the coast to the mountains. They live in coastal heath, open dry sclerophyll forest, and mixed sclerophyll- rainforest -- in fact, almost anywhere they can hide and find shelter by day, and find food at night. The devil is nocturnal . During the day it usually hides in a den, or dense bush. It roams considerable distances --up to 16 km -- along well-defined trails in search of food. But their habitat remains threatened. The Tasmanian devil is now listed as endangered in Tasmania.

Tasmanian Wildlife Cont...

EASTERN QUOLL

Male eastern quolls are about the size of a small domestic cat averaging 60 cm in length and 1.3 kg in weight; females are slightly smaller. They have thick, soft fur that is coloured fawn, brown or black. Small white spots cover the body except for the bushy tail which may have a white tip. Compared to the related spotted-tail quoll, the eastern quoll is slightly built with a pointed muzzle. The eastern quoll (or native cat, as it is sometimes called) has two colour phases -- ginger-brown or black, both with white spots on the body but not the tail. Eastern quolls once occured on mainland Australia, with the last sighting occuring in the Sydney suburb of Vaucluse in the early 1960s. They are now considered extinct on the mainland. The species, fortunately, is widespread and locally common in Tasmania. It is found in a variety of habitats including rainforest, heathland, alpine areas and scrub. However, it seems to prefer dry grassland and forest mosaics which are bounded by agricultural land, particularly where pasture grubs are common. The eastern quoll is classed as vulnerable under federal legislation, but is not listed under Tasmanian state legislation.



PLATYPUS

Although the platypus is currently common and widespread, there is concern about the potential impact of an infection caused by an aquatic fungus, Mucor amphiborum. Affected animals develop ulcers on various parts of the body that can lead to death from secondary infection and inability to control body temperature. So far the disease appears confined to northern water catchments but there are anecdotal reports of the disease in southern and north-west river systems, which have fuelled fears the disease may be spreading to other areas. The platypus, with its duck bill and webbed feet, is a unique Australian animal. It and the echidna are the only monotremes or egg-laying mammals to be found on earth. The platypus is widespread in eastern Australia, ranging from tropical lowlands to sub-alpine areas. In Tasmania the platypus is common in the lakes of the Central Highlands (even in lakes over 914 m above sea level), and in rivers and streams of the south, southwest and northwest coasts. However, closer settlement is reducing the numbers in certain coastal rivers. Although platypus are strong swimmers they are not fast and prefer slow flowing streams. Platypus live in burrows that they dig on the banks of fresh water rivers, lakes or streams.The platypus is wholly protected throughout Australia. It is listed as vulnerable due to the continuing degradation of suitable water bodies caused by daming, drainage and pollution.

BENNETTS WALLABY

The Bennetts wallaby, known as the red-necked wallaby on mainland Australia. Bennetts wallabies are found throughout the state, including the Bass Strait islands. They are abundant in Tasmania - their numbers and distribution having expanded over the past 30 years.

WOMBAT

The wombat is the largest burrowing mammal. The common wombat was once found throughout southeastern Australia but now, partly as a result of European settlement, is restricted further to the south. It occupies Tasmania, eastern New South Wales and eastern Victoria with scattered populations in southeastern South Australia and southwestern Victoria. There are three subspecies of common wombat - Vombatus ursinus hirsutus which is found on the mainland, Vombatus ursinus tasmaniensis which is found in Tasmania and Vombatus ursinus ursinus which was once found throughout the Bass Strait islands but is now restricted to Flinders Island. It is a fairly large, solidly built animal with a squat, round, bearlike body, small ears and eyes, and a large naked nose. Its thick, coarse fur varies in colour from sandy brown to grey and black, and is sometimes flecked with fawn. The Tasmanian Wombat is not as large or bulky, averaging 85 cm in length and 20 kg in weight. In Tasmania the wombat is widespread and found from sea level to alpine areas but shows a preference for heathland, coastal scrub and open forest, where soils favour their burrowing habits. Wombats are mostly nocturnal, usually coming out at night to graze when temperatures are lower. However, in cold periods they may sometimes be seen about during the day either grazing or basking in the sun. They graze for between 3 and 8 hours a night, during which time they may travel many kilometres and visit up to four burrows within their home range to rest or tidy up the burrow. The diet of the wombat is composed entirely of plant material. Its main food is native grasses but shrubs, roots, sedges, bark and herbs are also eaten, while moss seems to be a particular delicacy. The wombat is common in Tasmania, particularly in the northeast of the state. However, since settlement, they have faced resentment from farmers as their burrows can be hazards to stock, and thousands were killed for this reason alone. Although common at present, the clearing of land for agriculture is reducing their range. Wombats are killed by poison such as '1080' used in baits intended to reduce rabbit or wallaby numbers. Logging habitat and dogs, indiscriminate shooters and vehicles also take their toll.

LITTLE PYGMY POSSUM

The appropriately named little pygmy possum reaches a mere seven grams and has a head and body length of only 5-6.5 cm. It is indeed the smallest of all possums. The little pygmy possum was once thought to be confined to Tasmania, however, populations have been found on Kangaroo Island and the mallee scrublands of north-western Victoria. It occurs throughout a range of habitats, except rainforest. It spends much of its time in the lower, dense canopies of the understorey vegetation. It is most common in drier forests and heathlands in the east of the State. The animal generally nests in the hollows of old trees. The little pygmy possum feeds on insects and lizards.

RINGTAIL POSSUM

Like all ringtail possums, the common ringtail possum has a strongly prehensile tail which acts as a fifth limb, and which is carried tightly coiled when not being used. It can be distinguished from the brushtail by the light covering of fur on its tail, as well as the white tail tip. The common ringtail occurs along the entire length of the eastern seaboard of mainland Australia and in the south west corner of western Australia. It is widespread throughout Tasmania, where it occurs in a variety of vegetation types, especially eucalypt forests and areas of tall, dense tea-tree. The ringtail feeds on leaves, as well as flowers. The ringtail is well adapted to a diet of eucalypt leaves, apparently being capable of detoxifying the tannins and phenols in the animal's caecum (a part of the gut). It is strictly nocturnal and, unlike the brushtail possum, is strongly aboreal, spending little time on the ground. Spherical nests about the size of a football, called dreys, are constructed from bark and grass among the dense canopy of the understorey. The ringtail is unusual among possums in being an active nest builder.

BRUSHTAIL POSSUM

The lively brushtail possum is our most common possum species and largest arboreal (tree-dwelling) marsupial herbivore (plant-eater). It is the size of a domestic cat with a pointed face, long oval ears, pink nose and bushy black tail. The Tasmanian brushtail has 3 main colour variations: silver grey, black and gold. The very dark possums inhabit denser, wetter forests than the grey. Pure golden possums are the result of a genetic mutation and most do not survive long in the wild because they are conspicuous to predators. The Tasmanian brushtail is the same species as the Australian mainland form but has several characteristic differences such as larger size and longer, thicker coat.

Tassie Wildlife Cont...

BRUSHTAIL CONT...

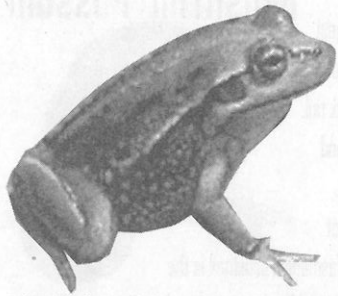
Brushtails are widespread throughout Tasmania and are highly adaptable to a wide range of natural and human environments. Their natural and preferred habitat is forest, where they nest in tree hollows. Brushtail possums are herbivores or plant-eaters. In the bush they feed mainly on leaves of trees and shrubs, but they also enjoy succulent herbs, grasses, and garden plants. Meat or fat may occasionally be scavenged. The brushtail possum is a nocturnal marsupial spending the daytime asleep in its nest and feeding at night. They are a tree-living or arboreal animal and so are well adapted for climbing with their sharp claws; a hand-like back foot for grasping and a strong flexible (prehensile) tail for curling around branches. Brushtails also spend some time on the ground searching for food.

TASMANIAN TREE FROG

Found only in Tasmania, this species is restricted to the west of the state. It is an attractive frog, with a green back, often patterned with brown. It can occur in rainforest, sedgeland and buttongrass plains. It can grow up to 60 mm long.

A common and widespread species, up to 45 mm long. The brown tree frog is an agile climber, aided by the well-developed climbing discs on its fingers and toes.

BROWN TREE FROG



The beautifully patterned green and gold frog is the only Tasmanian species listed as vulnerable, as population levels have declined markedly over the past ten years. The green and gold frog is Tasmania's largest species, growing to 90 mm. The tadpoles of this species can reach 100 mm in length

GREEN AND GOLD FROG

CAMP HYGIENE

When at a Blockade it is very important to remember the importance of hygiene at all times. One case of dysentery can spread through camp like wildfire and render the camp useless. When the shit hits the fan, or the forest floor from a treesit above, it will lessen the effectivness of the Blockade and turn many people away. Here are some ways to deal with various fezinfections and always remember WASH YOUR FUCKING HANDS!!!!!!!!!

Dumpster Diving- The ettiquette for bin diving and to keep camp with a healthy belly is to 1.wash your hands after dealing with mapky food and 2. wash all the food that has been exposed in the bins (ie.fruit,vegies.) This isn't rocket science but needs to be remembered.

Nits - When you first realise you have nits tell people at camp. Even though its embarrassing, chances are other ppeple might have it and can deal with it also. First try a combination of neem oil, tea tree, rosemary, lavender and wormwood wash. Wash hair with this combo and re-apply after a week to kill the eggs. if this method doesn't work clippers and metho are an easy way to get rid of the basatrds.

Staph- Staph is a bacteria that normally lives on people but can become infectious and aggressive when there is a lack of general hygiene, when there are open wounds and living with heaps of peeps. It is spread via physical contact. The best way to avoid it is to keep yourself clean and cover and treat wounds by soaking them in hot water with tea-tree or lavander essential oils, apply manuka honey and always have wounds covered. Before it gets bad boost your immune system with fresh garlic and echinacea every few hours. If it gets bad get antibiotics...fast.

Shit Hygiene-

1.Have shit pits more than 300 metres from camp,and 100 metres from water sources.
2.Cover up your shit with dirt or sawdust.
3. Have a hand wash mix of water and tea-tree
4. WASH YOUR HANDS!!!!!!

HERBAL FIRST AID

Good health is pivotal to your capacity to maintain action in the forests & city. A balanced diet (organics, bio-active foods, vitamins, minerals and healthy proteins) has a big impact on how often you will get sick, and it's always better to prevent sickness than to cure it, but sometimes sickness and injury are unavoidable. Below is a basic herbal first aid kit to add to your 'normal' first aid kit which should be kept at every blockade / share house. Keep all items in an airtight, side-padded, lightproof container, and make sure everyone knows where it is.

Rescue Remedy Also called 'Five Flower Formula' Bach Flower Remedy, emotional stress / trauma, anxiety.

Chamomile flowers Mental, muscle and stomach relaxant.

Comfrey leaf and/or root Broken/factured bones, do not use on open wounds (heals too quickly, may trap infection).

Plantain Skin ulcers, bad insect bites.

Arnica Cream Sore muscles, sprains, strains bruises. Do not apply to broken skin.

Aloe Vera Gel Burns, grazes rashes, irritated skin, haemorrhoids.

Calendula & Hydrastis Homeopathic Blend Ideal for any infections, sores, wounds, burns, mouthwash, conjunctivitis, etc. can also be taken internally. If you only use one thing, make it this.

Echinacea Tincture Temporary immune support, internal & external infections.

Honey Awesome anti-bacterial for sores, wounds, sore throat, Sugarbag (native bee honey) 100x better.

Ginger and/or Peppermint Teas or Oils Stomach & menstrual cramps, motion sickness, morning sickness.

Eucalytpus Oil Insect repellent, antiviral, antibiotic, use in inhallation for colds & flus, dilute before applying to skin.

Lavender Oil Cure-all for headaches/migraines, anti-inflammatory, anxiety, insomnia.

Kunzea Oil Native Tasmanian plant, anti-bacterial/fungal, skin rashes/eczema, muscular aches, anxiety, viral infections.

Paw Paw Ointment Soothes cracked/dry skin, burns.

Tiger Balm Sore muscles, great inhalation for flus & colds.

Most of these items can be purchased from Goulds Pharmacy in Hobart, Live Life in South Hobart, Fisher's Pharmacy and Hatton & Law's Pharmacy in Launceston . When using dried or fresh herbs it is always best to get it as fresh as possible. This means growing some of these things yourself, be it in your share house, in pots hanging from trees, the environment centre garden, or you local community garden. Even if you are just passing by, the contribution of a plant you may never see again will aid the many who come after you.

A NOTE ON COMFREY

Comfrey is a restricted herb in Australia due to tests that showed cancer in lab rats pumped full of the extract. Wise use is the key in any herbal medicine use. It should only be used when really needed, and not for prolonged periods of time. It is a very powerful herb that has been used for hundreds of generations, and was once called 'knit bone' because of it's incredible healing abilities for broken or fractured bones. It is best used as a poultice on the injured area, but it has also been used as a tea for many centuries. When growing Comfrey make sure that you grow it in pots or areas where their roots are contained, otherwise it can spread and become a serious weed. It only grows more when pulled out!

A NOTE ON HONEY & SUGARBAG

While clearly not vegan, honey is a unique and priceless healing gift from the bees. Sugarbag, also called Native Honey, is many times more effective than it's European counterpart. It is mainly available from Queensland as large quantities are only possible in warm climates. It can be obtained from groups who rescue native bee hives from forest areas set to be cleared, and transport them to wildlife reserves. Sugarbag sales help to fund the important work of protecting these incredibly beautiful and special native animals. You can purchase Sugarbag from: www.uq.net.au/~zzrzabel www.sugarbag.net www.zeta.org.au/~anbrc
As far as I know, Leatherwood Honey has not been researched much for it's unique properties, but it is from the rainforests of Tasmania, and has a delicious taste.

FURTHER READING

A Modern Herbal

by Mrs. Maud Grieve available online at www.botanical.com or as a book.
An alphabetical encyclopedia of many herbs, their medicinal uses, history and constituents. An invaluable resource for any share house / blockade, and a fascinating read.

Juliette Bairacli Levy's books

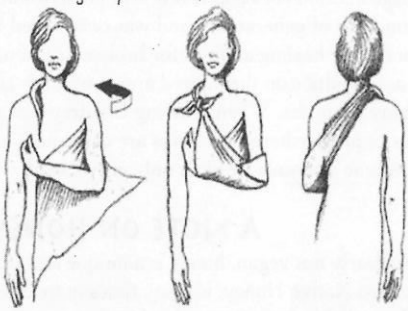
The famous French herbalist who was taught herbal lore by gypsies. Any of her books are priceless for herbal recipes and information, including 'Common Herbs for Natural Health' and 'Nature's Children', plus many other herbals, nature observations and writings in defense of gypsies. (Image: Juliette living with gypsies)

The Black Cross' Activist First Aid

A great organisation based in Portland, Oregon, providing health information for activists and radicals. Check out their invaluable website and printable zine www.blackcrosscollective.org.

BUSH FIRST AID

Don't worry, the forest isn't teeming with creatures that want to eat you, nor is there an army of trees and scrub just awaiting your arrival to strike! Drinking lots of water and being aware of our surroundings is a good start in preventative forest medicine. However it has been advised that you should always carry a triangular bandage. Triangular bandages can be used as dressings, pads or slings (scarves and face concealers too!) If used to bandage a wound, they should be secured with a reef knot. They can be made by cutting a one meter square piece of material diagonally into two triangular pieces. If it's too big for your needs, fold it in half.



SNAKE BITES

By way of prevention, stomp, the vibrations send 'em off. And pay respect to the creature, leave them know that you mean them no harm. After all we're in their home. Be aware of putting your hands and barefeet in hollow logs or where you can't see.
Its also recommended not to put your hand into long grass, but due to the nature of our ways, we often fling our whole selves into long grass with a mere blink of notice, so, trust the forest to protect you, 'twill be fine! And after all that, here's what to do if ya do get bitten! We've only got three snakes in Tassie, and they're all poisonous the tiger snake, the copperhead and the whip snake.
All bites should be treated as potentially lethal.

AND THE COURSE OF ACTION-

1. Check breathing and pulse: if casualty is unconscious follow the DRABC. (which is D check for danger both to you and the casualty, R response; is the casualty conscious, A check airway, B check breathing, C check circulation)
2. Calm casualty: shanti shanti om
3. Apply pressure immobilisation bandage: apply a firm roller bandage starting just above the toes or fingers and moving up the limb as far as can be reached. Bandage needs to be firm, but not too tight.
4. Immobilise casualty: apply splint to immobilise bitten limb. Check circulation in toes or fingers. If possible ensure casualty doesn't move.
5. Call 112 from a GSM phone,
6. Do not wash venom off the skin Do not cut venom out or suck it out Do not use a constrictive bandage
Do not try to catch the biting creature (although knowing the species can be useful).

BUSH FIRST AID

SPIDER BITES:

Our Tassie poisnous spiders are the funnel web, red back and the white tail. Same methods used as above.

BLEEDING

1. Apply direct pressure over the wound. Squeeze the wound edges together if possible
2. Raise and support injured part. Lie causalty down, and raise injured part above the heart
3. Bandage wound. Apply a pad over wound, secure with a bandage
4. Check circulation below wound

FRACTURES, DISLOCATIONS

1. Follow the DRABC
2. Control any bleeding and cover any wounds.
3. Check for fractures (pain, difficult or unable to move, swelling, discolouration, bruising)
4. Don't move the damaged part
5. Immobilise fracture. Apply a padded splint, supporting the limb, carefully wrap bandages under the natural contours of the body. Check that bandages are not too tight or loose every 15 minutes
6. For leg fracture, immobolise foot and ankle use figure of eight bandage (which leaves the heel and that part of the sole exposed)
7. Watch for signs of circulation loss
8. Call 112 from a GSM phone

SPRAINS AND STRAINS:

1. Follow DRABC
2. Rest, apply Ice, and a Compress, and keep limb Elevated

HEATSTROKE

1. Follow DRABC
2. Apply cold pack or ice. Apply to neck, groin and armpits
3. Cover with a wet sheet
4. If conscious, give fluids.

HEAT EXHAUSTION

1. Lie down in a cool place
2. Loosen tight clothes, remove unnecessary clothes
3. Sponge with cold water
4. Give fluids to drink
5. Seek medical aid if there's vomiting or the causalty does not recover.

LEGAL STUFF FOR TASSIE ACTIVISTS

What follows is a very brief legal run down on your rights and obligations as an activist in Tasmania. More information is available by contacting activists at the local campaign centre, who can put you in touch with some kick arse lawyers!!! The charges that we face are criminal offences in Tasmania. Land owners (ie.FT) can take you to court on a civil matter. But, please note that this section has not, in its entirety, been compiled by a lawyer, the following laws are those which may be relevant. The penalties are not stated.

FIRST OFF

You must give your name and address and D.O.B. when asked to by a police officer, whether this information is truthful is up to you, but be aware of any i.d. you may have on you. (this can include your face)! While you may choose to give false information, this may be held against you in the future by police and the courts.

TRESPASS

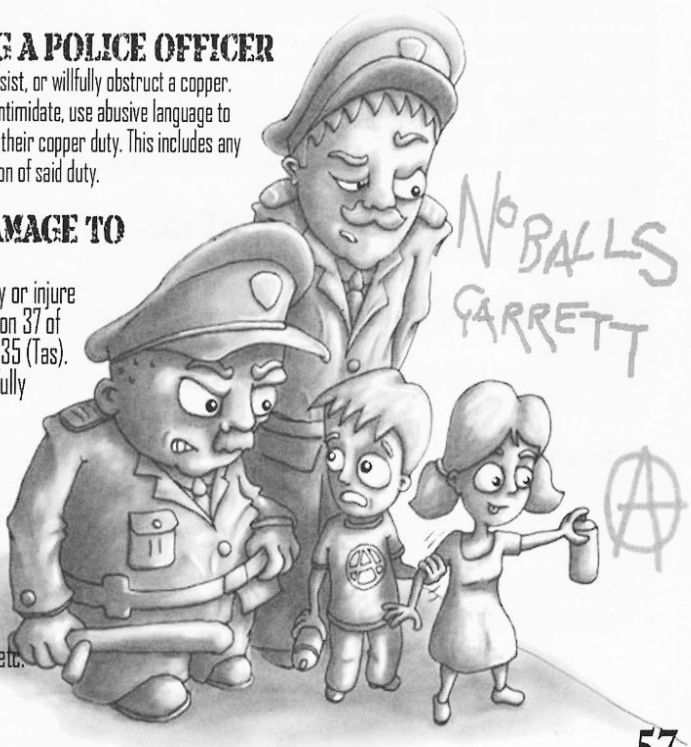
Generally defined as "an unlawful presence on land". This land may be privately or publicly owned. The Forestry Act 1920 (Tas), makes provision for "a certificate in writing purporting to be signed by the CEO, stating that the corporation had closed that area of State forest to that person at that time". In our speak, an exclusion zone. A staff member of Forestry Tasmania can direct you to leave, if you choose not to comply, you can be arrested as soon as the police come on site, or can later be summonsed. As has also been stated, it hasn't been tested out at the time of me typing this...ask someone who's been here a while!

OBSTRUCTING A POLICE OFFICER

It's an offence to assault, resist, or willfully obstruct a copper. It's an offence to threaten, intimidate, use abusive language to a copper who is performing their copper duty. This includes any person acting in the execution of said duty.

UNLAWFUL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

A person shall not destroy or injure any property, under section 37 of the Police Offences act 1935 (Tas). It is an offence to "unlawfully remove, displace, deface, obliterate or conceal any boundary mark, beacon, survey mark, mark used in setting out work, milestone, signpost or notice". Within our campaign and the law, this extends to machines etc.



LEGALS CONT...

ARREST

*Arrest or apprehension consists of seizure or TOUCHING your body, with a view to detaining you.. If there is no touching of the body there is no arrest, unless you submit and go with the arresting officer.
*You must, immediately, be informed of the reason for your arrest.
*The amount of force which can be lawfully used during arrest is proportional to the amount of resistance.
*Get legal advice

Criminal charges even of a minor nature can have serious consequences for you. You should always get immediate legal advice about your situation. By the time you are arrested you should be aware of the campaigners whom you are working with, they will be able to offer you contact with a legal representative for your court appearance.

OFFENCES TO AVOID

*Resisting Arrest: can include pulling away from a copper trying to handcuff you or struggle against an arrest, even a little bit.
*Abusive language to a copper.
*Assaulting a copper: given our non-violence policy, this is totally out of line for any forest action.
*Drug Offences: bad for the campaign and bad for you.

BAIL

Once charged, you will usually be released on bail-usually no need to pay money, so don't call your Granny just yet! One condition of bail may be not to return to specific forest areas, or just a blanket ban on your return to operational coupes, or in the case of town actions, you may be restricted from entering the CBD for a period of time, it all depends on many factors.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER ARREST

You will be taken to a police station, probably interviewed and then you will be processed. This involves you being charged and bailed by police or detained for court. It may also involve a forensic procedure. Coppers may make an order authorising the carrying out of a non-intimate forensic procedure on a charged person who is in custody.

You only have to give full name and address to the police, make sure you have proof of i.d in this case, because police can cause extra hassles for you if they think you are lying. You don't have to answer their questions about your occupation, how you came to be in the arrestable situation, any information about other activists.

In Australia, police can forcibly take DNA from you. They have begun to take it from activist mob, when there's an obstruct charge in the picture.

Once you have left the station, there should be an activist waiting for you at the police station. If not, go back to the safe house or the campaign centre and let a campaigner know what your experience has been and when your court date is.

LEGALS CONT...

UNDER 18

If you're under 18 you should read the Young people-law for under 18's Fact sheet. Ask at the campaign centre for contacts to get one if you are at a loss.

BEING HELD IN CUSTODY

Unless earlier released or bailed, you may be detained for a reasonable time (a couple of nights/ or as long as it takes to get you to a magistrate) for the purpose of questioning and investigation. A reasonable time will depend on the situation.

If you choose to be arrested whilst on bail conditions, you are likely to be held in custody until your court appearance. Be aware if you are arrested on bail conditions on Saturday, you will not appear in court until Monday.

If you are held in remand, contact the nominated town contact activist, they can provide the media information and contact the lawyer on your behalf, they can also organize for people to be at court to support you.

Please keep your fellow activists informed of your situation. Remember all detaining in remand of peaceful activists who have stood up for the defense of Tasmania's forests is an injustice and the public will want to support your efforts.

...YOUR RIGHTS

Before being questioned or investigation commences, you have the right to attempt to communicate with a friend or relative and a legal practitioner.

If you are 18 or over, the copper conducting the investigation may deny you this right for up to 4 hours if they believe, on reasonable grounds, that communication is likely to result in escape! or the fabrication or destruction of evidence.

These rights do not always apply when you have been taken into custody for a forensic procedure to be conducted.

COMPENSATION CLAIMS

Forest industry are carrying out claims for compensation against activists who hold up logging. These involve a court procedure in the magistrates court, or in the case of Gunns 20, the Melbourne Supreme Court.

FOOTNOTE

All you ever have to tell the cops is your name and details, remember that they are trained to weasel information out of you. You don't have to tell them shit, either about yourself or anybody else... always keep in mind there is no such thing as off the record.

It's true that the cops "are just doing their job", but it is also true that, that job, at times can be to uphold unjust, and unreasonable laws that are there to suppress and aid destruction of the Earth. (cut throats I tell yas) There are times when the police seem to be acting on behalf of the corporations.

By way of ending on a humorous note... there is a story of an activist who was being wrongly arrested at an action, a not very impressed activist who was expressing emotions of...unhappiness about the situation, not to mention the on coming chainsaws....when a dude, on the same side as the activist rocks up to him and whispers melodically in his ear "Remember brother, the police are you, and you are the police"!!!!!!!!

Shit, if you're not laughing at that you can hand me a whisky!!!

MEDIA TRAINING MANUAL

Introduction: How to Work Miracles

Coordinating media for a direct action is more art than science, and sometimes owes more to luck than either. News is a quirky, complicated, unpredictable endeavor - much like an action itself. Put the two together, and it can seem like a miracle when an action actually communicates the intended message to the desired audience. The media coordinator's job is to work miracles.There's no formula for working miracles, but there are certain steps you can take that will greatly increase your chances of coverage. You have to stay flexible and willing to do whatever works, but following the basics will put you in position to respond most effectively if you have to change course. Much about media work, up to the point when the action finally goes down, is tedious, exacting, and detail-oriented. (Then it's exciting as hell.) But if you ignore the fundamentals, you're giving the news media - who are already naturally disposed to regard activists as naive amateurs - one more reason to ignore your action.

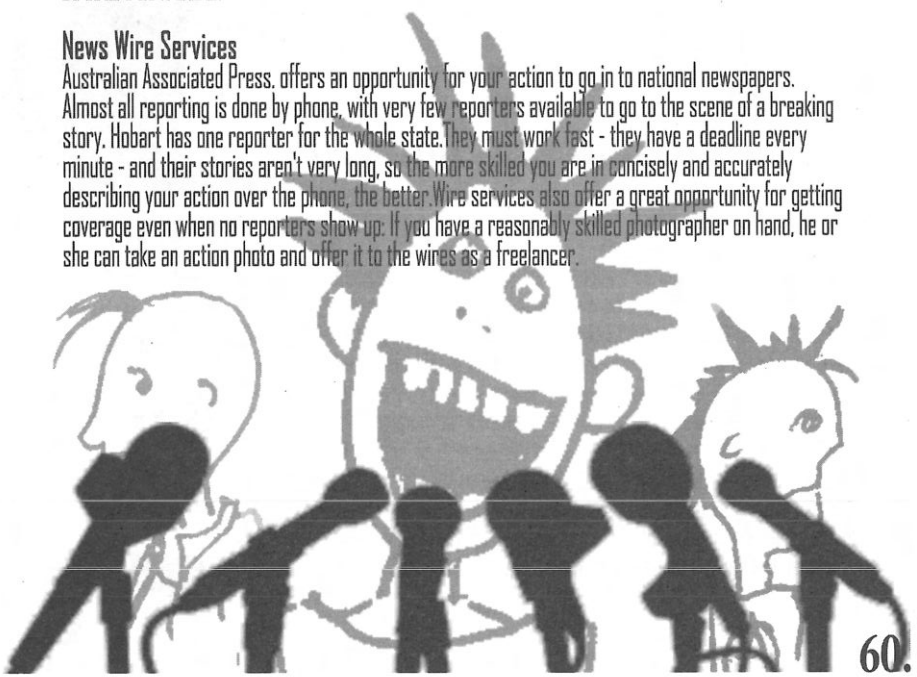
Media must be done with thorough professionalism - journalists are professional cynics, and if you're sloppy they will notice it, and it will colour their coverage. So go the extra mile; proofread the press release again; make the extra phone call. Never cut corners. And always remember this advice from Wes "Scoop" Nisker, a legendary counterculture journalist of the '60s:

"If you don't like the news, go out and make it yourself."

It does no good to whine. If you want to reach a mainstream audience, learn to work with the media structure as it exists.

News Wire Services

Australian Associated Press, offers an opportunity for your action to go in to national newspapers. Almost all reporting is done by phone, with very few reporters available to go to the scene of a breaking story. Hobart has one reporter for the whole state.They must work fast - they have a deadline every minute - and their stories aren't very long, so the more skilled you are in concisely and accurately describing your action over the phone, the better.Wire services also offer a great opportunity for getting coverage even when no reporters show up: If you have a reasonably skilled photographer on hand, he or she can take an action photo and offer it to the wires as a freelancer.



Newspapers

Is a picture worth a thousand words? Yes: A dramatic newspaper photo of your action will draw many more readers than an article - and the wire services may pick it up and move it around the world. An essential step in planning your action is to work backwards from the photograph you'd like to see in the next day's paper. (This imagery should ideally translate well to television.) Ask yourself: If the only coverage of this action is one photo, what single image will best convey our message? Consider everything: lighting, camera angle, visibility of the target, size of the banner, even the clothes your activists are wearing. In the absence of a banner, effective messages can be delivered by symbolic costumes.

Radio

News radio is in some ways the most desirable coverage for an action. It's live and dramatic; during morning and afternoon "drive time" it reaches large, captive audiences; and radio reporters live for catchy sound bites (as opposed to TV reporters, who value good video footage.) These days, equipping your activists onsite with a cellular phone is a must: News radio loves those "live from the scene of the action" interviews.

Television

A creative, timely direct action with good visuals can get coverage, with a vast audience.
Here are some other ways to add visual interest to your direct action:

Banners.

Banners should not only express your message, but should be designed for easy reading at a distance. This means that not only should all the colours and symbols used be legible, but the banner itself must be big enough to be seen against whatever backdrop you're hanging it on.

Clothing.

Sometimes, what your activists are wearing can tell the story as well or better than a banner. For example, for a protest at a toxics facility or nuclear dump, dress everyone in haz-mat suits. If you're raising hell at a stockholder's meeting, dress up as caricatures of fat-cat capitalists. Or skip the banner altogether, and have your message spelled out in letters on the protesters' t-shirts.

Checklist for Effective Direct Action Media

One month to one week before the action

1. Decide what person or persons will be in charge of media strategy. The benefits of consensus aside, it is nearly impossible to write a press release, focus on a key sound bite, contact key reporters, or accomplish any other media tasks by committee. So empower a media team to make these decisions, and let them do their jobs without second-guessing and micro-managing.
The most logical makeup of the media team is a media coordinator, an action coordinator and the lead campaigner. During the action itself, each of these people will likely be stationed at a point where they can serve as media spokespersons. If the media coordinator is to be stationed at the action site, you need one more member of the team: Someone to stay in an office and work the fax machine, (email) (unless you have on-site fax capability).

MEDIA TRAINING MANUAL CONT...

2. Settle on one simple message. Accept it: You're not going to be able to communicate all the points, sub-points and shades of gray about the issue you'd like to. An action is like a freeway billboard, designed to hammer home one - and almost always only one message. If you can't focus on one issue that's the main reason you're doing the action, you shouldn't be doing the action at all.

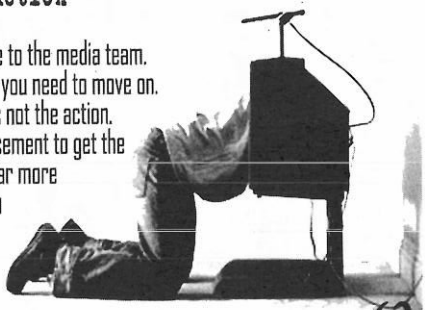
3. Choose a strong image that clearly communicates the message. Remember the freeway billboard: With one glance it is (or should be) unmistakable what product or idea is being sold. Ideally, your action should communicate the message without any words of explanation - and always in as few as possible. If you find yourself saying, "They'll understand it when they read the banner," your image isn't clear enough. But the banner, which will probably contain language very similar to the sound bite, must also be capable of communicating the message on its own. You may not pull off the image; or you may not get the banner up; each, therefore, has to be able to stand alone.

4. Craft sound bites that communicate the message and enhance the image. Assemble the media team. Take out a legal pad. Lock the door. Throw out short, simple, declarative sentences that express your message. Write them down. Stay in the room until you have five that might work. From five, choose three. From three, choose one. Shape and refine it until it's as close to perfect as hard work and creativity can make it.

5. Choose a date and hour for the action that will maximize your chances for coverage. Sometimes you have to do an action when it is possible to do it, or when it's safe to do it. But if circumstances permit you to choose the date and time, make your choices with the media's convenience in mind. Again, there's no formula, but there are some general rules of thumb:
Morning is better than afternoon. Almost no event short of a major catastrophe gets covered on the evening news, or in the next morning's paper, if it occurs after 3 p.m.
Monday through Thursday are the best days, and Monday's best of all, because the later you go in the week, the greater the chance that some other big story will come along and blow you off the news map. Saturday and Sunday are also not the best, because news outlets operate with skeleton crews on weekends. But that's assuming your action occurs in a news vacuum, which it won't. Try to time the action so that it either anticipates or responds to an event the media will recognize as a story - "the news peg."

One week to a few days before the action

1. Write a draft press release. Circulate the draft release to the media team. Discuss and revise, discuss and revise, until it's perfect or you need to move on. Remember: The press release is not the message. It also is not the action. The action is the message. The press release is an advertisement to get the media to cover your action. The first two paragraphs are far more important than the rest of the release; the headline is even more important than that.



2. Make a list, with phone and fax numbers, of every news outlet you can think of that might be interested in the story.Check the phone number and fax number listed in the directory to make sure they're correct.

3. Begin practicing sound bites and mock interviews with the media team. If someone's never been interviewed on camera and you have one available, videotape each other, play it back and look carefully for anything - words,gestures, expressions, mannerisms, posture - that doesn't enhance effective communication. Practice until you eliminate those things.

4. Decide what supplementary materials - fact sheets, background papers, maps, etc. - are needed for the press kit. Assemble the materials and folders to put them in. Get them all ready to go, except for the press release, which you'll add after any last-minute changes.

A few days to one day before the action

Gut check: Decide if it's safe to tip off key reporters in advance. If there are one or two reporters whose coverage is key, and you decide they can be trusted, approach them now - strictly off the record - and let them know what's going to happen. You may find out they'll be out of town, but they can tell you who will be covering in their place. They may tell you they live two hours away, so they need extra notice. They may want to cover the action from a strategic vantage point. Make adjustments to accommodate them if you can, but never at the expense of a safe, effective, authentic action.

The day before the action

1. Finalize the press release.
If at all possible, keep it to one page. Spell-check it. Proof read it. Get someone else to proof read it again. Print it, copy it and add it to the press kits. (An example of a press release for a breaking-news action follows this checklist.)
2. Alert all media you can trust, and who might possibly want to be on the scene, that the action is going down. Obviously, there are times when you can't tell anyone. The local newspaper may be in the pocket of the industry you're hitting. The TV anchor in a small market may not know enough not to "accidentally" break a pledge of confidentiality. But in general, if you approach the news media straightforwardly and make sure that you're off the record, they will honor your request to keep the information confidential.

Sometimes you just have to take a deep breath and take a chance, because if news outlets know what's coming you're almost certain to get better coverage. But do not, under any circumstance, fax them the press release, or anything else except a map - nothing on paper until the action is safely under way. Faxes can be lost or intercepted. Ideally, you should speak directly with the reporter who's going to cover the story.
If that's not possible, you should ask to speak to the city editor of a newspaper, and the assignment editor of a TV or radio station. Be prepared to tell them in 30 to 60 seconds what you're doing, why you're doing it and why it will make a good story. Make sure they get the exact time and place of the action, and phone numbers where you or someone else on the media team can be reached from that moment until the action.
The best time to do this round of calls is the late morning or early afternoon before the action. Before 11 a.m., most editors are in meetings; after 4 p.m. they are on deadline and they will not want to talk to you. If you can't call before 4 wait until 7 p.m. and call the night editor.

MEDIA TRAINING MANUAL CONT...

If you know you'll have reporters on the scene when the action starts - or even think you might have some - do whatever you can to keep news cameras away from the actual site until the action is underway. Have them meet you at a nearby staging area and take them in once your activists are in place. Or tell them to be there half an hour after you expect things to be in place, if you can control the timing that closely..

The night before the action

1. At a meeting of everyone involved - action people, ground protesters, support people - go over the press release, emphasizing the main message and the lead sound bite. Spend some time with everyone who might possibly be in an arrest or interview situation, letting them practice the sound bite or variations on it. If there are too many of you, partner off and practice in pairs.

The morning of the action

1. Get on the phone by 7:30 a.m. (assuming it's a morning action, which is almost always best for coverage). Call the TV and radio stations again, to make sure someone on the news desk got the message from the day before and knows what's happening. Again make sure they have the exact time, place and the correct phone numbers for contacts. Most newspapers won't have someone on the desk until 9 a.m.; call them if time permits.
2. Double check to make sure that the person stationed at the fax machine has copies of the release and the prioritized list of news outlets.

As soon as the action begins You "have an action" at the moment protesters are in place and/or the image and banner are deployed. If you are some distance from the action site, work out a radio signal with the action coordinator, who should notify you the instant this occurs. Then:

1. Contact the person at the fax machine and tell them to start pumping out the faxes. It is ideal, if you have the capability, to use multiple fax machines or to pre-store the list of numbers in your fax machine so you can start the process with one command. Do your best, but anything that gets out the maximum number of faxes in the shortest amount of time will help.

2. Begin calling, in order of priority, the news outlets on your fax list. Identify yourself by name and organization, and clearly and succinctly, inform that you have a peaceful protest underway, its location and the purpose. Be calm and businesslike, not urgent or lecturing. For example: "This is Zazu Pitts with Rainforest Action Network. This morning we are conducting a peaceful, nonviolent protest against Unocal's destruction of the Amazon. Five minutes ago, two climbers scaled to the top of Unocal's headquarters in downtown Los Angeles, and they're going to stay there until the company agrees to meet with us."At that point, they'll usually say: "Send us a press release." Tell them one is on its way, then say something like: "I just wanted to tell you the protest is going on right now at 123 Main Street, let you know how to reach us, and see if I can answer any questions for you." They'll either say no thanks, or start asking questions

During the action

Do not keep calling back with updates, unless they are truly big and unexpected developments. If the outlets are interested, they will be following the action through the media team and the authorities. With cellular telephones, it is now common for action protesters to speak live to the news media from where they are hanging or locked down.

LOTS OF ACRONYMS

FT FORESTRY TASMANIA
ahem.. "Working with nature"! (i fool you not) "...a commitment to long term research underpins our policy of continuous improvement" translates to FOREST TERRORISTS.

FPC FOREST PRACTICES CODE
Issued by FPB(Forest Practices Board) - "provides a practical set of guidelines & standards for the protection of environmental values during forestry operations, in particular: soils, geomorphology, visual landscape, water quality and flow, flora, fauna, genetic resources and cultural heritage". "The code does not directly deal with utilisation standards or occupational health and safety."Breaches do happen and many features from the above list go unnoticed or simply unmentioned; basically when they want to go in, they go in.

FPP FOREST PRACTICES PLAN
FPP "an independent agency, that enforces the FP Code for every forestry operation within Tasmania, including all forest harvest or clearing, road building & forest regeneration & plantation establishment".

FPA FOREST PRACTICES AUTHORITY,
Administer the Tasmanian forest practices system. With directors who also sit on the board of Forestry Tasmania.

CFMEU CONSTRUCTION, FORESTRY, MINING, ENERGY UNION
"A progressive militant union representing workers in the building, construction & related fields, forestry & forestry products & mining & energy. It is an amalgamation of forerunner unions representing Australian workers for over 150 years".

TRFA/RFA TASMANIAN/ REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT
"20 year plans for the conservation and development of Australia's native forests" Under the watchful (?) eye of the Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

AFS AUSTRALIAN FORESTRY STANDARD
Runs along the same lines as FPC, but with 9 criteria (FPC have 6) Managed by the Australian Forestry Standard Limited "is a no-for-profit public company. The company owns the standard development functions and manages the elements of the Aus. Forest Certification Scheme".

L.O.A LOTS OF ACRONYMS

TCFA TASMANIAN COMMUNITY FORESTRY AGREEMENT
"The P.M., the Hon John Howard MP, and the Premier of Tasmania, the Hon Paul Lennon MHA, jointly announced the TCFA on 13th May 2005. The TCFA is a joint commitment of Australian and Tasmanian governments to enhanced protection of Tasmanians forest environment & growth in the Tasmanian forest industry and forestry jobs, The governments are committing over $250 million to revitalize the timber industry & preserve old-growth forests".....can ya tell what it is yet?.

FFIC FORESTS AND FOREST INDUSTRIES COUNCIL
"...is formed from associations with an interest in forest and land use issues. It's executive consists of members representing the CFMEU, Tas Country Sawmillers Federation, Tas Farmers & Graziers Association, FT, Private Forests Tas, Department of Infrastructure Energy & Resources".

TCA TIMBER COMMUNITIES AUSTRALIA
"Our aim is to secure long-term access to natural resources to generate employment and a future for regional communities". TCA hold a strong arm within the political forum! Formerly the Forest Protection Society.

EPBC ACT ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT
Federal. "Protects the environment, particularly matters of National Environmental Significance (Protected matters). It streamlines national, environmental assessment & approvals process, protects Australian biodiversity & integrates management of important natural and cultural places"....which exempts forests from the RFA since 2002.

RPDC RESOURCE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
"A statutory body that overseas the State planning system, is responsible for state of the environment reporting, assesses public land use issues and projects of State significance, and reviews water management plans"

PEFC PROGRAMME FOR THE ENDORSEMENT OF FOREST CERTIFICATION
"Has become the worlds largest forest certification umbrella organisation with 35 independent national schemes in membership from all over the world. 23 of these certification schemes have been endorsed by the PEFC council, delivering hundreds of millions of tonnes of wood to the market place from more than 200 million hectares of certified forests"!

L.O.A LOTS OF ACRONYMS

FSC FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL
Formed in 1993 out of the '92 Earth Summit, the FSC standards represent the worlds strongest system for guiding forest management toward sustainable outcomes. They have national offices in more than 40 countries.

F.O.N.S.B.L.O.A
FORCES OF NOT SO BAD LIST OF ACRONYMS

TWFF TIMBER WORKERS FOR FORESTS
"Is an incorporated association to represent the interests of timber workers who believe that their interests were not represented by TCA, or the Forest Industries Associations of Tasmania.... we are not a green front group....we oppose the clearfelling of our remaining old growth and high quality regrowth forests in the timber production areas (support selective logging)...above all we abhor waste, and we are as we say timber workers. We represent the interest of a large number of Tasmanians who run businesses that depend on Tasmanian special timbers for their livelihood, such as craft workers, furniture makers, wood-turners, and wooden boat builders, shingle splitters and restorers of heritage buildings."

TCT TASMANIAN CONSERVATION TRUST
"Aims to foster and assist in the conservation of flora, fauna and important natural, archaeological and cultural features, especially those that directly effect Tasmania"

IUCN INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE
(Assess all new sites nominated for natural WH site listing) "the world conservation union is the worlds largest and most important conservation network...the Unions mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable".

CSIRO COMMONWEALTH SCIENCE AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION
"Australia's national science agency..." their working with the industry, communities, state & federal governments, to deliver sustainable competitive advantage for the $16 billion forestry, wood and paper sector....and on a "global stage, we play a significant role in the application of Australias forestry knowledge & expertise".

TWWHA TASMANIAN WILDERNESS WORLD HERITAGE AREA
The labeling given to a large area in the South West of Tasmania protected through the World Heritage Committee.

WHA WORLD HERITAGE AREA
An area that is listed for protection by the World Heritage Committee.

UNESCO UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
"Encourages the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world, considered to be of outstanding human value".The WH Committee are the group who, as an arm of UNESCO go to these places (ie The Lower Weld Valley) to survey and put protection onto places.

ICOMOS INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES
"Global non-government organisation which works for the conservation and protection of cultural heritage places. One of the three formal advisory bodies to the WH committee (along with IUCN and ICCROM (preservation and restoration of cultural property)).

ACF AUSTRALIAN CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
"Leading national not-for-profit environment organization...for 40 years has been the voice for the environment....seeking a lasting political, economical and social support".In the late '80's ACF (originally established by a group of scientists) realigned its agenda away from land reservation and more toward private land management and rehabilitation. Philip Toyne the then director, widened the ACF's spheres of political influence and opened new doors of funding.

P.W.I.L.O.A

PEOPLE WE LIKE LIST OF ACRONYMS

HVEC HUON VALLEY ENVIRONMENT CENTER
"Is a grassroots, not for profit, volunteer run charity based in the Huon Valley, South Tasmania. The centre was opened 6 years ago as a result of huge community concern over the devastation of local forests, which form a part of the majesty and magic of Tasmania's unique landscape. Since then it has been at the forefront of the campaign to protect these ancient forests of Southern Tasmania.The EC facilitates a community working space, an eco-shop and library, a community raising campaign, film nights, musical events, fund-raising events, festivals, direct action, lobbying, information stalls and the Black Sassy Arts collective.
The HVEC is one of the Gunns 20 defendants, and is currently being sued by the woodchipping giant Gunns Ltd.. for over half a million dollars for standing up for Tasmania's ancient forests".

I.D.A LOTS OF ACRONYMS

SWST STILL WILD STILL THREATENED
"Is the banner under which grassroots community forest campaigners and activists have come together at this important time. Longterm stakeholders in the Styx, Weld and Upper Florentine campaigns and are advocating for the immediate formal protection of Tasmania's precious southern forests and the creation of a sustainable forest industry based on existing regrowth and plantation resources. FOR THE EARTH AND FUTURE GENERATIONS"

TWS THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY
"Is a national community-based, enviro organization whose purpose is protecting, promoting and restoring wilderness and natural processes across Australia". TWS incorporated is a defendant along with individuals employed by TWS in the Gunns 20 law suit.

ET ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA
"Is the representative body for Tasmanian Environment movement. ET is a conservation council made up of the 20 environmental and conservation non government organisations from across the Island state".

FOE FRIENDS OF THE EARTH
"A federation of autonomous environment organisations, the worlds largest grassroots environmental network".

EF! EARTH FIRST!
A movement!

WHO'S WHO OF TASMANIA

HOW THE FOREST INDUSTRY HAS GAINED CONTROL OF THE POWER STRUCTURE IN TASMANIA SINCE 1989.

Who	1989-1991	2001 - 2002	2003	2004-2006	2007
Edmund Rouse	Chairman of Gunns Kilndried Timber Industries Limited in which the ENT Ltd (Examiner Northern TV Ltd) both directly and indirectly held a large shareholding. Jailed for attempting to bribe a Member of Parliament to prevent the democratically elected Labor Green Accord from coming to power.			Deceased	
John Gay	Managing Director Gunns Kilndried Timber Industries Limited	Managing Director Gunns Pty Ltd Board Director Department of State Development	Chairman of Board and CEO Gunns Pty Ltd Resigned from State Development Board Chair of FIAT (Forest Industries Association of Tasmania)	Chair FIAT Chair and CEO Gunns Pty Ltd	Chair and CEO Gunns Pty Ltd
Robin Gray	1989, May: Liberal Premier lost election to Labor Green Accord. Leader of Opposition	Director Gunns Pty Ltd	Director Gunns Pty Ltd	Director Gunns Pty Ltd	Director Gunns Pty Ltd
David McQuestin	Managing Director of ENT Ltd (Examiner Northern TV Ltd). Director Gunns Kilndried Timber Industries Limited. Pleaded guilty to charges relating to company law in legal fallout from bribery affair. Under probation of first offenders, conviction was not recorded, thus McQuestin was exempted from five year penalty re Directorships and remained on Gunns Pty Ltd Board.	Director Gunns Pty Ltd	Director Gunns Pty Ltd	Director Gunns Pty Ltd	Director Gunns Pty Ltd
Mark Addis	Executive Director FIAT (Forest Industries Association of Tasmania) Promised Robin Gray $40,000 from FIAT for a second election to stop Labor Green Accord. 1991: negotiated with Robin Gray to protect Premier Field from Green no confidence motions for two months to secure Forest Resource Security legislation for forest industry, precipitating an election and bringing down a Labor Government.	Secretary of Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER) including Forests. Appointed by Bacon Government. Responsible for administration of Forest Practices Board	Secretary of DIER including forests	Secretary of DIER including forests	Secretary of DIER including forests
Karen Vadasz	FIAT (Forest Industries Association of Tasmania) Office Manager and PR person whilst Mark Addis was CEO of FIAT	1998: Lennon's Office	Senior Private Secretary to Deputy Premier Paul Lennon and Forest and Forest Industry Council employee	2004, March: Lennon's Senior Private Sec but transferred as Senior Private Sec to Minister Lara Giddings when she assumed Economic Development from Premier Lennon 2006: Project Director – Pulp Mill Taskforce	2007 Jan: Executive Director Pulp Mill Task Force
Ian Whyte	North Broken Hill Senior Executive	Executive Director FIAT (Forest Industries Association of Tasmania)	Executive Director TFGA (Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association)	Executive Officer TFGA	2007: Executive Officer (Strategic Projects), TFGA

WHO WHO OF TASMANIA

HOW THE FOREST INDUSTRY HAS GAINED CONTROL OF THE POWER STRUCTURE IN TASMANIA SINCE 1980.

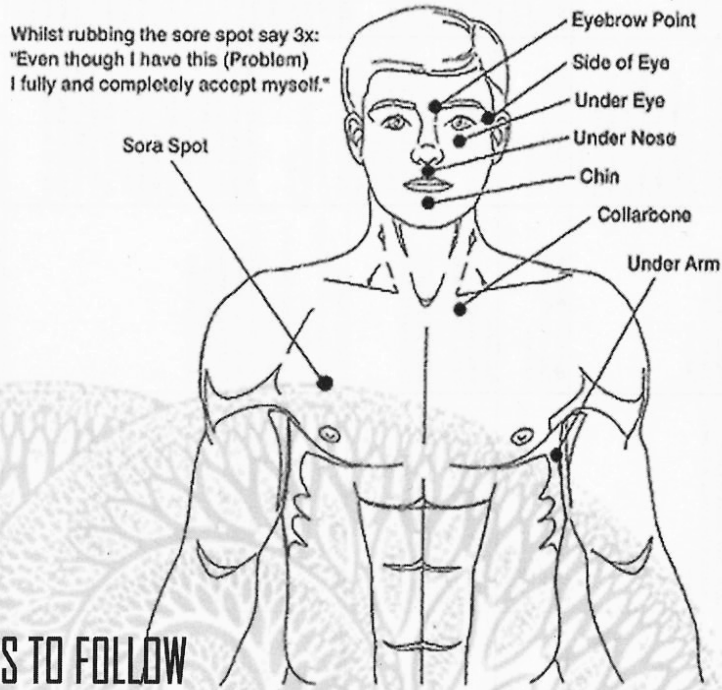
Jim Bacon	Secretary of TTLC (Tasmanian Trades and Labor Council) In 1991 joined Addis in negotiating with Robin Gray to secure forest industry interests through forest resource security legislation and precipitating an election and demise of Labor govt.	Premier	Premier	2004, June: Deceased	
Paul Lennon	Former TTLC (Tasmanian Trades and Labor Council) Secretary Appointed by David Llewellyn as Deputy Chair of Forest and Forest Industry Council. Replaced Ken Wriedt as Labor MHA Franklin in 1990: Member Forest Protection Society (now TCA)	2002; Depuy Premier and Minister for Economic Development, Energy and Resources including forests.	As in 2001 but now responsible for Forest Practices Board	2004: Premier Treasurer 2005, May: As Minister for Economic Development and Resources established the Pulp Mil Taskforce	Premier Minister for Economic Development and Resources
Bryan Green	North Ltd employee and union rep at Burnie Pulp Mill	Elected to State Parliament as a Labor Member for Braddon 1998 and re-elected in 2002. 2000, May: Appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier Lennon 1998 – 2000: Government Whip 2002: Sworn in as Minister for Primary Industries, Water & Environment	2002- 2004: Minister for Primary Industries, Water and Environment	2004 – 2006: Minister for Infrastructure, Energy and Resources 2006: Deputy Premier and received the portfolios of Economic Development, Resources and Sport and Recreation 2006: Negotiated secret pulp mill Wood Supply Agreement with Gunns Pty Ltd for 30 years access to native forests. 2006, July: Stood down on conspiracy charges	2007: member of the House of Assembly. No Ministerial responsibilities pending court proceedings.
David Llewellyn	1989 – 1992: Minister for Forests and Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries in the Labor Green Accord Member of Forest Protection Society Driver of reinroduction of Forest Resource Security Legislation precipitating an election and Labor defeat.	1998-2002: Minister for Primary Industries, Water and Environment	Minister for Health	Deputy Premier and Minister for Health	Minister for Primary Industries and Water Minister for Energy Gunns Pty Ltd will need 70 million litres of freshwater per day for pulp mill. Llewellyn will oversee.
Lara Giddings		Elected in 1996, supported reduction in numbers and lost seat in 1998. Employed in Premier's office until re elected in 2002.	2002–2004: Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier Paul Lennon and Minister for Economic Development also appointed Government Whip.	Appointed to Premier Lennon's Ministry 2004: Minister for Economic Development and Minister for the Arts	Minister for Health and Human Services
Evan Rolley	Chief Commissioner Tasmanian Forestry Commission	CEO Forestry Tasmania	CEO Forestry Tasmania	2006: Resigned as CEO of Forestry Tasmania	2007: consultant to Forestry Tasmania.

WHO'S WHO OF TASMANIA

HOW THE FOREST INDUSTRY HAS GAINED CONTROL OF THE POWER STRUCTURE IN TASMANIA SINCE 1989.

Who	1989-1991	2001 - 2002	2003	2004-2006	2007
Bob Gordon	1991: Commissioner Tasmanian Forestry Commission	2001, Nov: Stood as Labor candidate for Lyons in Federal election	General Manager (Marketing) at Forestry Tasmania	2005, May: Executive Director Pulp Mill Task Force, which was established under the Department of Economic Development and Resources with a $2 million budget. Paul Lennon was the Minister.	2007, Jan: Managing Director of Forestry Tasmania
Barry Chipman	Convenor Forest Protection Society Funded by Industry	Convenor: Timber Communities Australia Funded by Industry and Forestry Tasmania	State Co-ordinator of Timber Communities Australia	State Co-ordinator of Timber Communities Australia	Remains State Co-ordinator of Timber Communities Australia
Ken Jeffries		Former ABC radio journalist appointed by premier Bacon as Director of communications in his office	Director of communications for the Office of the Premier	Pulp Mill Task Force PR and Media spokesperson	Forestry Tasmania PR and Media spokesman
Rod Scott	Journalist at The Examiner, Launceston whilst newspaper owned by Examiner Northern Television (ENT Ltd).	Editor The Examiner, Launceston 1992 – 2004	Editor The Examiner, Launceston 1992 – 2004	2004: The Editor of Launceston's Examiner Rod Scott appointed Premier Paul Lennon's new chief of staff.	Premier Paul Lennon's chief of staff
Tony Harrison	Worked for Robin Gray in the 1980's when Gray was Premier. Later established PR company Corporate Communications (Tas) Pty Ltd.	Managing Director Corporate Communications (Tas) Pty Ltd Services: Strategic communication plans; Lobbying and government relations; Crisis management plans and counsel; Issues management; Communications audit and review; Media relations; Community consultation/stakeholder liaison; Advertising; Speech writing Stakeholder liaison; Publications (annual reports, brochures, newsletters); Media training; Marketing; Event management.	Managing Director Corporate Communications (Tas) Pty Ltd Clients include Gunns Pty Ltd. Corporate Communications (Tas) Pty Ltd is on the register of Tasmanian Government communication consultants and service providers.	Managing Director Corporate Communications (Tas) Pty Ltd Authorised advertising and spokesperson for front group, Tasmanians for a Better Future, campaigning for the return of a majority government in Tas election campaign in 2006. Refused to reveal the business people and companies behind the group. Gunns Pty Ltd refused to confirm or deny its involvement.	Managing Director Corporate Communications (Tas) Pty Ltd Spokesperson for Gunns Pty Ltd in recent pulp mill assessment process debacle. Listed as communication consultants and service provider and recorded as having done work in 2006 for Department of Economic Development and Resources which has oversight of the Pulp Mill Taskforce.
Bruce Montgomery	The Australian, journalist, Hobart	The Australian, journalist, Hobart	Communications Manager, Forests & Forest Industry Council	Communications Manager, Forests & Forest Industry Council, seconded to the Pulp Mill Taskforce. Resigned 2005	

EMOTIONAL FREEDOM TECHNIQUES



STEPS TO FOLLOW

1. SET UP: While rubbing the sore spot repeat 3x: "Even though I have this (problem) I fully and completely accept myself"

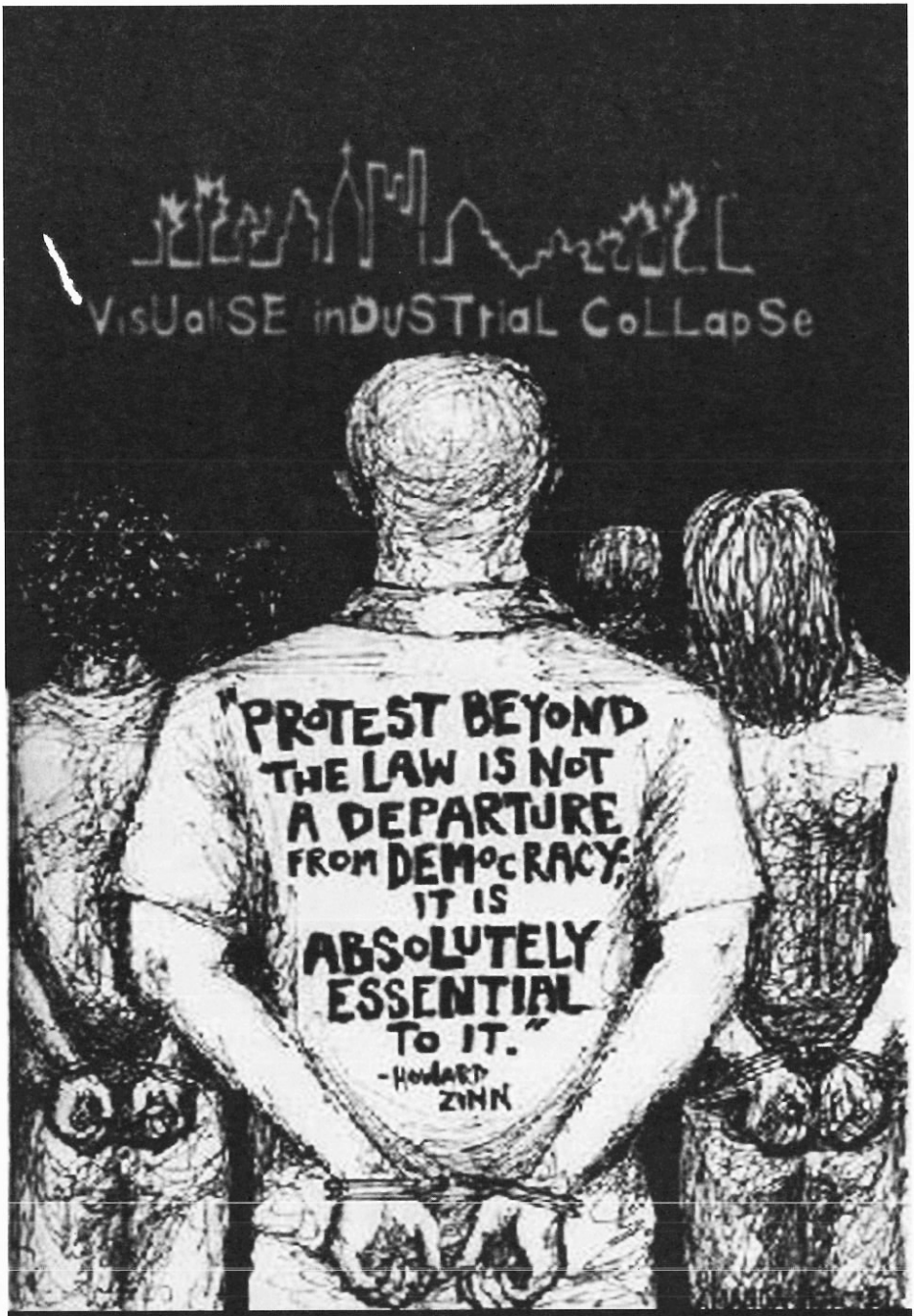
2. THE SEQUENCE: Tap 5-10x on each of the points while staying focused on the problem.

3. Take a deep breath and check your emotional level. Repeat the sequence if any intensity remains or if other issues come to mind.

4. Be prepared to persist with the procedure until all aspects of the problem have been addressed.

For more information on what the hell this is check out www.eftdownunder.com

Enjoy and Happy Healing.



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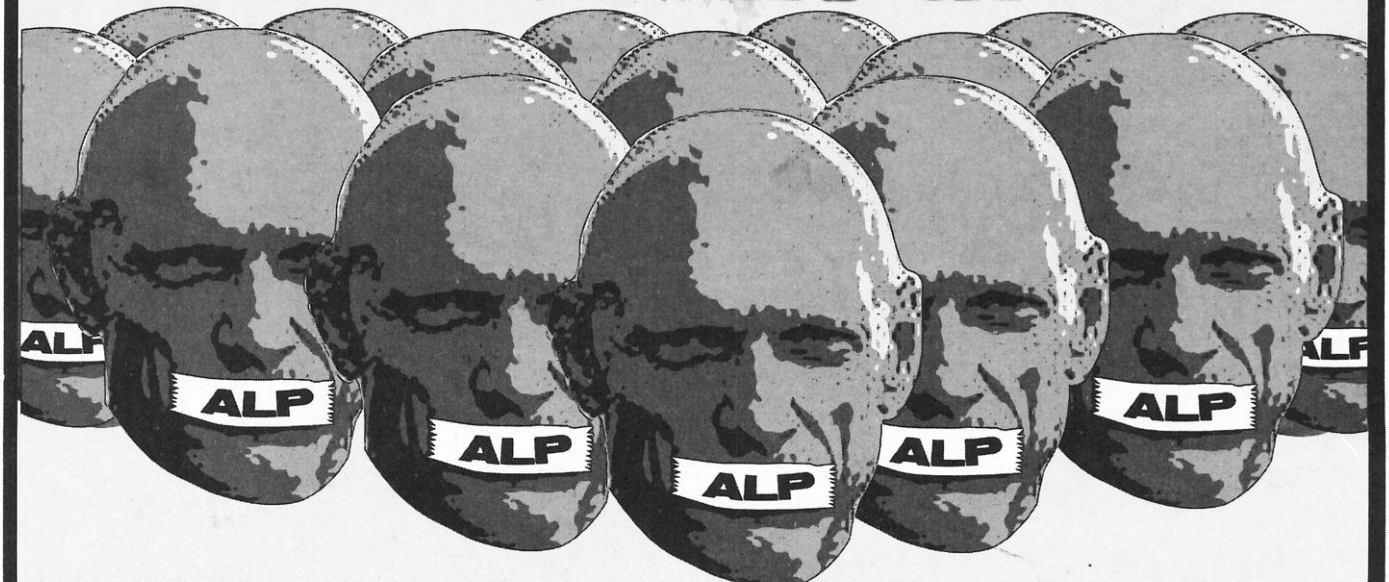
WILL THE REAL PETER GARRETT

PLEASE STAND UP!!



HOW CAN YOU SLEEP WHILE

OUR OLD GROWTH IS BURNING?